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To the Author of the SCOTS MAGAZINE.

A letter from Sir R—— A, to W. C. Eſq; on the modern taſte in Muſic. *

I Was preſent the other night at a concert of vocal and inſtrumental muſic. As I think it my duty to make my abſent friend a ſharer, as much as I can, in all my pleaſures, I ſhall give you my ſentiments of that entertainment.—You and I are old muſical acquaintances, and though neither of us profeſſors of that ſcience, we are perhaps not the leſs qualified to give a rational opinion upon a muſical compoſition. As I had been for a good many years a ſtranger in the capital, it did not ſurpriſe me to find ſome conſiderable alterations, or improvements as they are called, in the modern manners. It is no wonder that the provincial cut of your coat and mine, ſhould here ſeem antiquated and ridiculous; but muſt I tell you, my friend, our taſte and our judgement have likewiſe become ridiculous?

The orcheſtra was very full: the band was conducted by a celebrated performer, whoſe fame we have heard in our corner of the kingdom; and from whom I conſequently expected very high ſatisfaction. —The concert opened with a new overture, the firſt movement of which was an *Allegro*. The air was in my opinion childiſh enough; but it was embroiled in ſuch an intricacy of notes, that, forgetting the air, I attended to little elſe than the execution. This was indeed excellent. There was a great deal

* This piece of criticiſm, which in general regards the prevailing taſte in Muſic in Britain, appears, in ſome things, to point more particularly at the Muſical Society in Edinburgh.

of work for the bow, and very cleverly gone through.—The movement which followed was an *Andante*. Here there was a ceſſation of arms among moſt of the performers, and I found that this movement was chiefly a ſhow-piece for the firſt violin. I own that I was charmed with the powers of the performer: the force of his tone, and the brilliancy of his execution, were truly admirable. The ſecond violin took up the ſubject at intervals; as if to give time to the firſt to recover ſtrength for a new exertion. The baſs all the while had nothing elſe to do but to drop in two or three hoarſe notes. —This movement was ſucceeded by a *Preſto*, which cloſed the overture. This, to ſay the truth, was, to my ears, no more than an unmeaning rattle of inſtruments. The reſt of the band, who had lain by during the *Andante*, now ruſhed in all at once: and the bruſhing and fiddling was ſo hearty and vigorous, that it ſeemed to be a ſtrife who ſhould firſt get through the piece.—Thus ended the overture.—I have ſeldom liſtened to a piece of muſic without carrying off in my memory a part of the air. But, at the concluſion of this piece, I found that no part of it had made the ſmalleſt impreſſion. We have heard a piece of muſic, where, after its concluſion, the delightful idea continued to fill the imagination, the melodious ſounds hung upon the raviſhed ear, and fancy ſtill continued a faint impreſſion when the reality had ceaſed. When tried by this teſt of merit, what muſt we determine of the muſic at preſent in eſteem?

Thus diſappointed in the opening of the entertainment, I was in hopes of being better pleaſed with what was to follow; when the prelude of the harpſichord called my attention to a ſong. The ſinger, a woman, had a very fine voice; but this, I am ſorry to ſay it, was all that I found to praiſe in the performance. I ſoon found, that here, as in the former piece, the pleaſure was limited to an admiration of the art of the performer. She run diviſions which would have been admirable even upon an inſtrument; and in her cadences, the art with which ſhe ranged through four or five different keys till ſhe returned to the tone of the ſong, could not fail to ſurpriſe a novice in the faſhionable ſtyle of compoſition.—You and I, my friend, have been in uſe to look for an expreſſion of ſentiment in the muſic of a ſong, for a modulation which carries an idea along with it, and for a harmony which correſponds to the tone of the paſſion which the maſter intended to affect by his compoſition. But how antiquated are our notions of muſic? The *Bravoura* ſtyle of ſinging requires but one talent in the performer; a power of throat to execute the moſt difficult paſſages. It is this that tickles the refined ears of the modern *Dilettanti*, and ſecures to the ſinger a thunder of applauſe to compenſate for his waſte of lungs.

Why ſhould I tire you with dwelling minutely on each of the pieces that compoſed my laſt night's entertainment? I ſhould but repeat the ſame terms to expreſs my diſſatisfaction. We had half a dozen of overtures in the ſame ſtyle with the firſt, and two or three ſongs, with a ſpecimen of the abilities of the firſt violin, in a *Solo* of his own compoſition. During the performance of each piece, I was in a ſtate of impatient expectation of what was to follow. I felt a preſent want, and longed for a genuine gratification. But the concert ended, and my expectation was vain. In talking to my acquaintances, I found that the entertainment had given the greateſt ſatisfaction; and I have now obſerved, that the preſent ſtyle is ſo prevalent, and ſo ſtrongly confirmed, that he who dares to diſapprove, is pitied for his old-faſhioned notions, and ridiculed for his want of taſte.

This, my friend, is a mortifying conſideration. I am prompted to examine a little the grounds of ſo humbling a deciſion.

It is no favourable proof of the merit of the modern muſic, that it is reliſhed only by thoſe who are accuſtomed to it. None but a perſon whoſe ears are habituated to it, can hear it without diſguſt. A perſon born with a muſical ear, and who has been accuſtomed to have his feelings excited by the old muſic, which reaches the heart, when brought to liſten to a compoſition in the modern taſte, is ſenſible of a deplorable want; a want, which no ſkill in the performer can ever make up. You know, my friend, that in ſpeaking of the old muſic, I do not mean that very old ſtyle of compoſition whoſe greateſt excellence was a dry counterpoint. I do not even mean the later muſic of *Corelli*; whoſe melodies, though frequently excellent, are too often heavy, and inſipid, from his attachment to the

the richneſs of the harmony; but I underſtand by the old muſic, that ſtyle which is now out of faſhion, of which *Handel* was the head and the father, and in which *Geminiani*, *Pergolezi*, and others, have produced works, which, ſhould the taſte for real muſic ever revive, will intitle them to the higheſt eſteem and veneration.

An admirer of the modern muſic may perhaps argue, that, allowing that none can reliſh that ſtyle of compoſition but thoſe who are habituated to it, the ſame will hold true with regard to the old muſic, which is reliſhed only by thoſe who are accuſtomed to it. I deny the parallel; and, as I think, upon ſolid grounds. I am thoroughly perſuaded, that were the diſpute to be determined by the impartial judgement of a ſavage, whoſe ear was equally a ſtranger to the one and the other, he would not heſitate to give the preference to the old. For what is the proper effect of muſic, and the teſt of a good compoſition? Is it not that the heart feels its force; that there is a pleaſure of the mind excited by the actual impreſſion of the ſounds? Here the power of the old muſic will be confeſſed by every hearer whoſe ear is unvitiated. But enquire even of an admirer of the modern ſtyle, what are the feelings produced by that muſic. If he can deſcribe his own feelings, and has, at the ſame time, the honeſty to confeſs them, he will tell you that they ariſe from an admiration, either of the ingenuity of the compoſition, or of the art of the performer.

A tacit conſciouſneſs of the real merit of the old muſic, which the modern compoſers, to their honour, have not yet loſt, notwithſtanding the corrupt taſte of their maſters the town, is perhaps the reaſon that the oratorios of *Handel* continue yet to make a part of the public entertainments of the winter. But one fact is pretty ſingular. I am aſſured, that it is no uncommon thing to hear even thoſe give the preference to the modern compoſitions, who have been unable to reſtrain their tears at the performance of the *Meſſiah*. Can they name a compoſition in the modern taſte which has produced that effect? How ſtrange and unaccountable! that Prejudice, and the folly of Faſhion, ſhould ſtill continue their influence, while Nature, with irreſiſtible force, gives teſtimony againſt them!

An able compoſer, (*Bach*), who thought he had ſacrificed too much to the corrupt taſte of the public, by accommodating to it indeed the greateſt part of his works, has lately broke theſe diſhonourable fetters, and produced an oratorio which Handel himſelf would have liſtened to with pleaſure. The oratorio of *Gioas, Re di Juda*, is in the genuine taſte of the old muſic. The compoſer has ſucceſsfully imitated *Handel* in the conſtruction of his choruſſes, as well as in the beautiful and varied modulation of his airs. The air, *Son paſſati i lunghi affanni*, has a mixture of the elegant and pathetic, which it would be difficult to rival by any ſong-compoſition of the ableſt maſters.

The charge, then, againſt the modern muſic is, that the compoſers ſeem to have forgot the end and purpoſe of their art, which is, to pleaſe by affecting the paſſions.— Were we to extend our view to ſome of the ſiſter-arts, the cenſure of a depraved taſte might perhaps apply with the ſame juſtice. Dramatic Poetry is as much on the decline as Muſic; and from the ſame cauſe, a neglect of the true end of that ſpecies of compoſition. The modern tragedy is now refined to ſuch a pitch, by an attention to delicacy of ſentiment, forſooth, and chaſtity of expreſſion, that the ſtrong pathos of nature is loſt and gone. A modern critic cannot bear the horrors of Shakeſpeare's Tragedy, nor the diſtreſs of Otway's. To what degree will this refinement of taſte at length tranſport us?

I will tell you, my friend, what I think is an error in judgement in moſt muſical compoſers, ancient as well as modern, but eſpecially in the latter. It is, that they imagine muſic an art capable of exciting a variety of paſſions; whereas, in reality, it can but ſimply affect a few of them. A compoſer ſhall take it into his head that he will make a piece of muſic expreſſive of rage: but let any man hear this piece performed with all the fury of which it is capable, yet it will never put him in a paſſion. His ears may be ſtunned with the noiſe, and his ſenſes amazed; but I am miſtaken if he will feel one ſpark of anger or fury.

The power of muſic in affecting the paſſions, ſeems to correſpond much with the power of painting. Both of them can only affect, by imitating a few of the external marks of the paſſion; but the conſciouſneſs of the imitation, of which we can never diveſt ourſelves, is the

cauſe that we can never feel a violent excitement. Muſic is indeed far inferior to painting, in this reſpect, that it can neither ſo ſtrongly delineate the outward marks of a paſſion, as painting can, nor is it capable, in many paſſions, of giving any external marks, where painting can imitate with the greateſt force and ſucceſs. There are but a few of the paſſions that have particular tones annexed to their expreſſions, but all of them have external ſigns, of which the eye is a critical judge. It is vain to aim at expreſſing either hope or fear by muſical ſounds: they are mute paſſions, and have no tone annexed to their expreſſion. For the ſame reaſon, muſic is incapable of expreſſing accurately either love or hatred. A ſoft and plaintive air is beſt ſuited to a love-ſong, becauſe generally the character of the lover is ſoft and whining; but, unleſs no man ever whined without being in love, the ſoft and plaintive tone cannot be an accurate expreſſion of love. The paſſions in which muſic diſplays her utmoſt power, are thoſe of joy and grief. Both of theſe have ſtrong expreſſions by tones, and they are ſo characteriſtically marked by ſounds, that there is no room for ambiguity. When I ſpeak of a ſtrong expreſſion, I mean no more than comparatively with other muſical expreſſions: for even at the moſt, it is demonſtrative, that the muſical expreſſion both of joy and grief is defective. No man ever felt either the frantic emotion of impetuous joy, or the delightful rapture of that which is more tranquil, upon hearing a ſprightly piece of inſtrumental muſic: and I know not whether the moſt plaintive melodies, without the aid of pathetic words, could excite tears. It is certain, that the nerves thrill with a degree of pleaſing pain, even from the ſimple pathetic tones; but the unſpeakable emotion which ſeizes the heart, and forces a tribute of tears from the eyes, is only known from the united effect of muſic, and the irreſiſtible charm of pathetic eloquence.

The modern compoſers, from the error of imagining muſic capable of expreſſing the external marks, not only of joy and grief, but of a variety of other paſſions, over which muſic has no power, have introduced a ſtyle of compoſition, which is, in fact, expreſſive of nothing at all. The deſign of the ſymphony which introduces a ſong, is to prepare the mind, and bring it to the tone of the paſſion of which the ſong is expreſſive; and hence it has its name of *Symphony*. The ſongs of moſt of our modern operas are uſhered in by ſymphonies, of which the melody is ſo extravagant and unnatural, that it is utterly impoſſible to gueſs at the nature of the air which is to follow. Thus a modern maſter ſhall introduce a pathetic ſong by a ſymphony ſo outrageouſly noiſy, that his audience can ſuppoſe nothing elſe to follow but horror and fury.

Noiſe, indeed, ſeems to be a principal aim of the modern compoſers; as may be eaſily imagined, where the deſign is rather to amaze and ſurpriſe, than to pleaſe. For this it may perhaps be urged, that they have the example of the beſt of the old maſters; Handel himſelf having introduced drums and wooden cannon in ſome of his choruſſes. But let it be remembered, that Handel in no inſtance deviated from propriety. Where he wanted to expreſs the horror and thunder of war, the thunder of his chorus could not be too tremendous: when he wiſhed to expreſs the grateful acclamation of thouſands, and the peal of thankſgiving and praiſe to the Almighty, the ſublimity of the theme called forth the higheſt powers of ſound, and the utmoſt energy of voices and of inſtruments. But how different was his ſtyle when the ſubject required a ſoftneſs and tenderneſs of expreſſion? There he ſhowed how much he poſſeſſed that real feeling of the ſentiment which is eſſential to the character of a compoſer. It is not enough, to poſſeſs the moſt profound knowledge of muſic, to be acquainted with all the powers of harmony, and the mechaniſm of counterpoint; unleſs the compoſer is at once a man of exquiſite ſenſe and exquiſite feeling, his works, however they may amuſe the triffling ſoul of a modern *Dilettante*, will ſoon ſink to that eternal oblivion which they juſtly merit.

If I were to conjecture as to the circumſtances which have conduced to corrupt the taſte of our country in muſic, I ſhould fix principally upon two cauſes. The firſt is, the perfection to which inſtrumental muſic is of late arrived. The violin itſelf, which now makes ſo capital a figure in our concerts, was, about a century and a half ago, hardly at all known. The old inſtruments were of a pitch much lower than thoſe in modern uſe; but they contained the ſoul

of

of muſic, which conſiſts in the expreſſion and mellowneſs of the tone, and not in its acuteneſs or brilliancy *. It is but of very late years, that the maſters of the violin have attained to that aſtoniſhing execution, to which the convenience of the ſcale of the inſtrument, lying ſo eaſily within the graſp of the hand, has given riſe. To excel in this faculty of a rapid and brilliant execution, is now the univerſal ambition of the performers; becauſe practice here being the only requiſite to perfection, all geniuſes are on a level. A maſter who is conſcious of his capacity to compoſe to the heart and feelings, muſt reſtrain his genius, if he wiſhes to be admired. He muſt labour out ſuch a modulation as will beſt ſhow the execution of the performer. The taſte in the inſtrumental muſic extends itſelf to the vocal. The ear, becoming accuſtomed to the wanton brilliancy of the movements performed on the violin, is apt to find a poverty, and want of variety, in the plain ſtyle of the *cantabile* and *affettuoſo*, which are the true ſphere of the voice: and hence the modern audience will liſten with contempt or indifference to a ſong, the merit of which is alone in the modulation or the expreſſion; but give them their favourite *bravura*; let the finger, with a painful exertion of throat, run through ſome rapid diviſions, and in the preparation of his cadences, mount or deſcend by a ſucceſſion of unnatural ſemitones, you will obſerve the eyes of the aſſembly ſparkle with admiration, and a murmur of applauſe conveyed from one to another, till it kindle into a tumult which ſhakes the hall to its foundation. Thus has muſic, even from its refinement, become corrupted: ſo nearly connected is the perfection of an art with its declenſion.

The other ſource of the corruption of muſic, is a contagious diſeaſe with which the people of faſhion are now-a-days affected: A pretenſion to *taſte* in all the fine arts. Every well-bred gentleman is a connoiſſeur in painting, a *Dilettante* in muſic, and a profound critic in poetry. Taſte in all the polite arts is now reduced to a ſyſtem, the knowledge of which, it is ſuppoſed, may be acquired by any perſon, whatever be his natural genius. An able and a diſcerning critic (*Mr Webb*) has written an eſſay on the beauties of painting, in the deſign of forming the taſte of our young travellers, upon this ſuppoſition, that it is quite eaſy for any one to become a judge of painting. I am ſorry to differ from this writer in ſo eſſential a point as the very principle on which he ſets out. I am thoroughly convinced, that, before a man becomes a real critic in painting, he muſt be endowed with a portion of the genius which forms the painter: and this writer himſelf has, I think inadvertently, given into the ſame opinion, in the dedication of his book, where he ſays, that "the ſame elegance of imagination which forms the painter, muſt enlighten the critic." He cannot explain this ſentiment conſiſtently with the ſcope of his book, unleſs by maintaining, that as any man may by ſtudy become a critic in painting, ſo may any man, by ſtudy, and without the leaſt natural genius, acquire that requiſite elegance of imagination, and become a painter. But this propoſition goes too far.

That the genius of the true critic muſt be akin to that of the artiſt, I think may be eaſily proved. A critic, in examining a painting, takes into his view the compoſition, or the manner in which the ſtory is told, the expreſſion of the different figures, and the propriety of the colouring. He finds, perhaps, that the ſtory is improperly told; that the painter has dwelt on a trivial circumſtance, neglecting what is moſt material: he finds, that the expreſſion of a principal figure is erroneous, and does not ſuit the ſituation; or perhaps the colouring appears to him out of nature. The figures, ſays he, ſhould have been diſpoſed in this manner; the expreſſion of that face ought to have been ſtronger, and more violently marked; and the colouring here ought to have been ſo and ſo. Why, this man has in effect painted the picture. If his obſervations are juſt, he has a greater genius for painting than the artiſt who executed it. Nothing is wanting to him, but the habit of uſing the pencil. He poſſeſſes the requiſite talents, he has the ideas; and were he taught to handle the pencil, he would expreſs

* A work is lately publiſhed, intitled, *A General Hiſtory of Muſic, by Sir John Hawkins*, a moſt ingenious and entertaining book, (as I am informed), which fully ſhews the ſuperiority of the old muſic to the modern, accounts in a ſatisfactory manner for the decline of the art, and contains likewiſe an amazing magazine of anecdotes of the men and manners of the laſt age.

expreſs thoſe ideas as he conceived them. Such, in effect, is the real connoiſſeur. If then it is poſſible for any man whatever to acquire theſe talents, as they conſtitute the eſſence of painting, it muſt follow, that any man whatever may become a painter. But how far this holds true, is proved by the experience of many a miſerable dauber, who has drudged a lifetime at the eaſel, who has lucubrated over *Leonardo da Vinci*, and who has by heart every rule laid down by the moſt eminent of the profeſſion who have employed their pens on the ſubject.

You will pardon me this digreſſion. As it is with taſte in one of the fine arts, ſo is it in all. In muſic, as in painting, the critic and connoiſſeur muſt owe his genius to nature. How muſt we ſmile at the preſumption of thoſe, who, wanting almoſt the faculty of diſtinguiſhing one ſound from another where there is a whole tone of difference, ſhall yet give their opinion of a piece of muſic, dictate in a concert, and with the ears of a *Midas*, equal him too in arrogance and ſelf-ſufficiency? The diſeaſe, as I have ſaid, is general. All our young men of faſhion are critics; eſpecially thoſe who having poſted through Italy, and gathered in their courſe the names of the capital painters and muſicians, retail them ſucceſsfully in all companies, and give the *ton* to their brethren at home. It is thus that the tide of taſte is influenced. For one good judge, there are at leaſt a dozen bad, and the worſt are ever the moſt preſumptuous. The profeſſors of muſic, who live by the patronage of thoſe judges, muſt, whatever is their own taſte, conform to that of their maſters.

There *was* a time, when a genuine taſte in muſic prevailed in England, and when our gentlemen, inſtead of indulging an empty affectation of being critics, were, almoſt all of them, actual proficients in the ſcience. In the 16th and 17th centuries, muſic was ſo much cultivated, that it was eſteemed diſgraceful for a gentleman to be unable to perform his part in concert; and every man who had by nature a voice or ear, was able to ſing at ſight. It is to be preſumed there was then no ſuch thing as a pretended connoiſſeur. The man who had a bad taſte, was known by his performances; and would find it difficult to perſuade the world by his impudence into a belief of his judgement.

The ſcience and practice are now almoſt confined to the hired performers. It is obvious, that an art muſt decline, which is cultivated only by thoſe who find it a ſevere and painful occupation. It is therefore natural, that as profit is the ſole object, the maſter and compoſer ſhould follow the faſhion whatever it is. Every maſter is now an author. Every inſignificant ſcraper, who has intereſt enough to pick up half a dozen of ſcholars, bethinks himſelf immediately of raiſing a contribution by the publication of his works. Monthly they fly out, in *Sonnate*, *Canzonetti*, *Quartetti*, *Notturni*, *Overture*, *Opera* 14th, 15th, 16th *in infinitum*, like the plagues of Egypt. Theſe vile crudities are diſperſed through all the muſic-ſhops in the kingdom; and as, with many performers, a muſical work needs no other recommendation than that it is new, they have an abundant circulation. It is by ſuch productions that the public ear is abuſed, which, from conſtantly hearing bad muſic, becomes utterly corrupted.

I have read of a propoſal for preventing the publication of bad muſic, by an enactment of the legiſlature, that all muſic, before it goes to the preſs, ſhould undergo a ſevere ſcrutiny by the governors and aſſiſtants of the Muſical Charity in England, and obtain their *Imprimatur*. A regulation of this kind, could it be obtained, could not fail to have the beſt effects in promoting a genuine national taſte: but it is to be feared, that the jealous ſpirit of our countrymen would regard this as too near an incroachment on their favourite and boaſted liberty of the preſs. And indeed, as a Sonata or Concerto can neither be a conveyance for treaſon nor blaſphemy, ſuch a reſtriction would certainly appear ſomewhat arbitrary. But inſtead of an inquiſition with ſuch plenary powers, if our literary cenſors, the Monthly, Critical, or London Reviewers, could find a department in their work for our muſical publications, and extend to them a little of that wholeſome caſtigation which they frequently beſtow on the productions of the ſiſter-muſe of poetry, I cannot help thinking they would do the public a very acceptable ſervice.

I am, my dear C. yours, &c.

—— *April* 1777. R. A.

Sketch

Sketch of the controverſy reſpecting Tanjore.

WHen the Muſſelmen had over-run Hindoſtan, and had eſtabliſhed the vaſt empire of the Mogul, it became neceſſary for the carrying on ſo extenſive a government, to ſubdivide it; and large diſtricts and provinces were allotted to temporary governors, appointed during pleaſure, to overawe the natural princes of the country, and collect from them the ſtipulated tribute for the Mogul. It often happened, that theſe temporary governors revolted, and appropriated to their own uſe the tributes which were to have paſſed through their hands. In vain were others ſent to relieve them, unleſs ſuch perſons were rich enough themſelves to raiſe armies, or were ſupplied from court with force ſufficient to diſplace their predeceſſors. Thus it was that Ancover de Cawn (father to the preſent Mahommed Alli Cawn) was appointed nabob of Arcot; but Chauda Sail being in poſſeſſion, and ſupported by M. Dupleix, Governor of Pondicherry, ſeveral battles were fought, in which Ancover de Cawn was worſted. He implored the aid of the then Governor of Madraſs, and received ſome ineffectual aſſiſtance; but was at length killed in battle.

Matters were in this ſtate when the war between England and France broke out. The French were triumphant in the beginning, and carried every thing before them: they took Fort St David's, and beſieged the Engliſh in their laſt hold, Madraſs. There Alli Cawn, who then claimed the nabobſhip, had taken ſhelter; but, dreading the worſt, had ſent his wife and children in an Engliſh ſhip to the Dutch ſettlement of Negopatnam. Lord Pigot gallantly defended the place, and raiſed the ſiege. This revived the Nabob's almoſt extinguiſhed hopes. Reinforcements were ſent from England, and Gen. Coote took the field, joined by the Nabob with a body of Maratta cavalry, and another from the Rajah of Tanjore. Gen. Coote was every where victorious; the Nabob's intereſt grew ſtrong in the country; and, by an article of the treaty of Paris [xxv. 137.], he was confirmed in his dominions. The alliance between the Engliſh and the Nabob was equally uſeful to both parties: it ſecured to him his dominions, and gave to them the balance of power, able to turn the ſcale either way: they were equally reſpected by the Gentoos and Moors. To this happy ſtate Lord Pigot, by his wiſe management, had brought the company's affairs on the coaſt, when he returned to Europe, where he was rewarded with thoſe honours he ſo juſtly merited. The Nabob, having thus overcome his difficulties, and feeling himſelf firmly eſtabliſhed in his dominions, began to change his ſtyle; and, having formed a large well-regulated army, and train of artillery, under the direction of European officers, raiſed an alarm in England; eſpecially as he began to manifeſt the deſign of ſetting aſide his eldeſt ſon, who is particularly attached to the Engliſh, appointing his ſecond ſon captain-general and paymaſter of all his forces, and allotting him the government of Tanjore; a ſituation of the utmoſt importance in caſe of a war with France, or any diviſion of intereſt in the Carnatic.

To prevent the conſequence of theſe proceedings, Lord Pigot, as having raiſed the Nabob to what he is, was ſent out to check his views, and reſtore the Rajah of Tanjore.

His Lordſhip's orders were rumoured in India long before his arrival; and the Nabob publicly declared, that what he paid for, could not with any juſtice be taken from him. But, to ward againſt the worſt, he ſent over agents and money, to purchaſe a revocation of ſuch orders, if any ſuch were ſent. Hence it is, that the London papers have been filled with complaints againſt Lord Pigot, and the company's ſervants. We are told, that the Nabob has always been our ally, firm in our cauſe, and that we have extorted vaſt ſums of money from him. The fact is, that we have proved a conſtant ſupport to him; and have, through his artifices and bribes, given ſo entirely into his meaſures, that we have provoked the Gentoos, leſſened our own conſequence, and almoſt rendered him independent. He has tempted the company's ſervants beyond a poſſibility of withſtanding, in order to extend his dominion over the natural princes of the country: but he has ſo artfully and frugally beſtowed his gifts, that he has acquired a princely and increaſing revenue, excluſive of the ſovereignty of the country, at leſs than two years purchaſe. Individuals in the ſervice have undoubtedly received from him enormous ſums; but let thoſe who have ſhamefully ſacrificed the intereſt of the company to enrich themſelves be puniſhed, not the

faithful

faithful ſervants, who have preſerved their integrity. The Rajah of Tanjore ought to be ſupported, and pains taken to conciliate the minds of the Gentoos, at the head of whom are the Marattas, a powerful and warlike people. Should a French war take place, it is not improbable but the enemy may addreſs themſelves to them, and take up the cauſe of the Gentoos in general.

It ſeems therefore clear, that the orders given to Ld Pigot were juſt and wiſe.

Some weeks after his Lordſhip's arrival at Madraſs, he communicated to the Nabob the orders of the company for the reſtoration of Tanjore, which he had taken ſome time before with the aſſiſtance of the company's forces, and had depoſed the old Rajah [xxxvi. 158.]. The Nabob inſiſted upon what he called *his* right to Tanjore, by the laws of India, and by treaties with the company. His repreſentations had no effect. His Lordſhip conſidered himſelf as commiſſioned to reſtore the Rajah, and accordingly he went to Tanjore the beginning of April 1776.

Upon his return to Fort St George, the majority of the council diſapproved of his proceedings at Tanjore. They repreſented to his Lordſhip, that ſuch a meaſure would be entirely repugnant to the intereſt of the company; that the directors, being at a great diſtance, could not be ſo able to judge as the council, who were on the ſpot; that, ſince the laſt diſpatches to England, there had been many revolutions; and, from the then appearance of things, they did not ſuppoſe it would be for the benefit of the company to reſtore the King of Tanjore to the throne. But the plain truth was, ſeven of the council had lent large ſums of money on their own account, for which, it is ſaid, Tanjore was pledged to them as a ſecurity; they knew, therefore, that if Tanjore was reſtored to its former king, they ſhould loſe that ſecurity; and they had reaſon to ſuppoſe, from the known cunning of the Nabob, that the money borrowed would be in the ſame predicament.

Lord Pigot, finding how matters ſtood, and that ſeven to four of the members of the council were againſt him, had recourſe to ſtratagem to obtain a majority. At a meeting of the council in the abſence of Sir R. Fletcher, commander in chief of the company's forces, his Lordſhip told Meſſ. Stratton and Brooke, two of his moſt violent opponents, that having ſomething to propoſe with reſpect to them, he thought that in decency they ſhould withdraw. Upon quitting the council-chamber, he moved for *ſuſpending them*; and carried the motion by *his own* caſting vote: at the ſame time orders were iſſued for putting Sir Robert Fletcher under arreſt. But the members in oppoſition having afterwards met the members under ſuſpenſion, they privately combined together, and, with the aſſiſtance of the military, determined to remove his Lordſhip from the government.

The manner they effected their purpoſe, Mr Hugh Pigot, his Lordſhip's brother, has laid before the public from ſome extracts of letters on the ſubject, which letters have ſince been confirmed by letters to the company from the mayor of Madraſs.

It appears, however, upon the whole, that his Lordſhip's conduct has not been altogether unexceptionable. In a letter from Gen. Clavering, at Calcutta, to Col. Stuart, at Madraſs, the General expreſſes his joy at the Colonel's ſucceſs in placing the majority of the council in the government; conſiders the conſequences of Lord Pigot's *uſurpation of the government*, as leading inevitably to a war in the Carnatic; and aſcribes the advantages ariſing to the company from the preſervation of ſo faithful an ally as the Nabob of Arcot, chiefly to the Colonel's ſpirit and magnanimity. The General at the ſame time aſſures the council of Madraſs of the firm ſupport of the board at Bengal.

To the ſame effect, likewiſe, Mr Haſtings writes to Mr Stratton, from Fort William. He approves and applauds the meaſure of wreſting from the hands of Lord Pigot the powers of government; aſſures him, that the recovery of the conſtitution from an *uſurpation* ſo confirmed, and from a ſpirit ſo determined as his Lordſhip's, muſt be ratified at home; and profeſſes, that his opinion is formed upon the moſt ſolid and impartial grounds: he likewiſe, in the warmeſt manner, expreſſes his feelings on the determination of a conteſt of ſo delicate a nature, ſo much to the credit and advantage of his friends, without bloodſhed; and concludes with owning that he ſhall be eaſier in his mind when he hears that their late preſident is returned to England, as his preſence muſt be productive of ſome diſtreſs, and check the operations of government, *Gent. Mag.*

An

An Anſwer to the Declaration of Independence, continued. [128.]

ART. XVII. For impoſing taxes on us without our conſent.

ANS. This was originally the apparent object of conteſt. Nor could any thing have been found more proper to work upon the people. Such is the ſelfiſhneſs inherent in human nature, that men in general are but too apt to ſeize any pretence for evading the obligation of paying the ſervants of the public. To hold forth ſuch a pretence, muſt be a ſure road to popularity, and to all that power which popularity can give. Like the Agrarian law among the Romans, it is a ſtandard to which the multitude would naturally flock.

In the inſtance before us, the paſt indulgence of government gave to the pretence a ſeeming weight, which it would otherwiſe have wanted. For one thing appears to be indiſputable: Had this ungrateful people, from the beginning, contributed to the common burdens of the ſtate, in proportion as, by the care and protection of the Britiſh government, they had proſpered; had their contributions all along kept pace with their ability,—they would have wanted the moſt ſpecious of thoſe ſhallow arguments by which they have fought to juſtify rebellion.

But though the taxes impoſed by parliament on the colonies had not, in any degree, kept pace with their abilities, taxes had been impoſed. No new power was now for the firſt time aſſumed.

By the Long parliament, whoſe practice, and whoſe principles, the congreſs ſeems to have propoſed as its model, and therefore cannot but approve, not only were the colonies taxed, but that particular mode of taxation was adopted which has been generally conſidered as moſt dangerous to the liberty of the ſubject: —They were taxed by an exciſe *.

After the Reſtoration of Charles II. an act was paſſed, by which duties are impoſed upon certain enumerated goods, the produce of the colonies, carried from one colony to another. The duties are ordered to be levied by perſons deputed by the commiſſioners of the cuſtoms in England, under the authority and by the directions of the commiſſioners of the treaſury in England; the produce of theſe taxes was appropriated, not to the ſervice of the colonies where they were levied, but to general national purpoſes *.

Was this act conſidered as unconſtitutional after the Revolution? So far from it, that it was explained and confirmed by an act of K. William, (7° & 8° Will. III. c. 22.). Not only was it confirmed, but the manner of confirming it was the ſtrongeſt that could be invented. All laws, uſages, or cuſtoms, in practice in any of the plantations, then or thereafter, contrary to this act, or to any act of parliament thereafter to be made, are declared to be "illegal, null, and void, to all intents and purpoſes whatſoever."

The ſame power was exerted under the reign of Q. Anne: The act for eſtabliſhing a poſt-office, binds the colonies as well as G. Britain; fixes the rates to be paid there; appropriates the produce of thoſe rates [xxvii. 673.]. The act impoſing ſixpence a-month, payable by all ſeamen to the ſupport of the royal hoſpital of Greenwich, extended not only to G. Britain, but to Ireland, and to all the dominions thereunto belonging (10° Anne, c. 17.). The ſeveral acts paſſed in the ſame, and confirmed or altered and amended in ſucceeding reigns, impoſing a duty on prize-goods, and appropriating the ſums ariſing therefrom to the uſe of the crown, are all manifeſt acts of taxation.

Nor did the Illuſtrious Houſe of Hanover depart from the policy adopted, or abandon the powers exerciſed in this behalf, by their predeceſſors? One of the firſt acts of the reign of George I. ſpeaks of *Plantation-duties*; orders them to be paid into the *exchequer of England*; and appropriates the produce of them, not to the particular ſervices of the colonies, but to the maintenance of the houſehold; and to public general ſervices (1 Geo. ſtat. 2. cap. 12.).

By the inattention of thoſe who drew up the act of Q. Anne, impoſing a duty of ſixpence a-month on all ſeamen for the maintenance of Greenwich hoſpital, the commiſſioners of the admiralty were not impowered to appoint collectors to receive this duty in America, though the clauſe of taxation extended to America. Early in the reign of his late Majeſty this omiſſion was perceived and rectified.

* See Lords Journals, vol. 3. p. 685.

* 25. Car. II. c. 7. See alſo Douglas's Summary, vol. 1. p. 319.

Proper powers were given for the appointment of collectors: All ſeamen employed in America, whether "upon the high ſea, or in any port, harbour, bay, or creek," or "upon the coaſts," or "upon the rivers," are ſubject to the payment of ſixpence a-month, or to the ſame penalties upon non payment as the ſeamen of G. Britain (2° Geo. II. c. 7.). Yet the Americans did not complain of this act; though it impoſed a tax, not for the particular ſervice of the colonies, not for the general ſervice of the ſtate, but for a particular eſtabliſhment in England. In the ſame reign an act was paſſed, impoſing certain duties on all foreign ſpirits, molaſſes, ſyrups, ſugars, and panels, imported into the plantations. In the impoſition of theſe duties, the uſual terms of *giving* and *granting* are applied.

Did the Americans at that time call in queſtion the power of the Commons to give and grant, and appropriate theſe duties? Did they call in queſtion the power of the King to receive and expend them? or of the officers to collect them? or of the courts of juſtice to enforce the payment of them? Why then object to the exerciſe of the ſame power, by the ſame bodies, in the preſent reign? How do they eſtabliſh their proofs of uſurpation?

Their conſent has not been aſked to the taxes impoſed in the reign of his preſent Majeſty. Was it aſked to the taxes impoſed in the reigns of his predeceſſors? No. They are not repreſented now. Were they otherwiſe repreſented then? No. Did they wiſh to be repreſented? Nor that neither. But they wiſhed not to be taxed. They were contented to enjoy the benefits, but choſe to decline bearing any part of the burdens, of government.

Since, therefore, on the ſcore of uſage or cuſtom, no objection can be made to the power of taxation itſelf, does any objection lie againſt the particular acts of taxation during the preſent reign? Does the objection lie againſt the quantum to be raiſed? Is that more than they could bear? It is ſcarce pretended that it is. Does it exceed the proportion which the Americans ſhould bear of the common burden of the ſtate? This, I believe, one of their agents did ſay: he might as well have ſaid, that two were more than two hundred. Would it have reimburſed the capital, would it even pay the intereſt, of the immenſe ſums expended for the uſe of the colonies? It could not be pretended *. Would the produce of theſe taxes pay their proportion of a debt of 70,000,000 l. contracted during the laſt war; a war undertaken in their defence? Nor that neither. Would it pay the 350,000 l. annually expended in maintaining their own eſtabliſhments, civil and military? Nor that neither. How then were they taxed beyond their proportion?

If no objection lie to the quantity of taxes impoſed, it was perhaps to the mode of taxation that their objection lay. Was the mode a bad one? They could ſcarce pretend to ſay it was; they had no more exception to this, than to any other. Was it unprecedented? Among them, perhaps, one of the modes adopted was without a precedent; but long ſince had it been eſtabliſhed among their fellow-ſubjects in G. Britain. And are ſubjects to revolt at any time, upon every alteration, whether for the worſe, or whether for the better, in the mode of taxing them?

Was it to the uſes to which the ſums levied were to be appropriated, that any objection could lie? Nor that neither. For the taxes impoſed on the colonies in the preſent reign, were not applied to the maintenance of the houſehold; nor to the ſupport of eſtabliſhments in England, as many taxes impoſed on them in former reigns had been: they were appropriated to the maintenance of government in America.

Upon the whole, then, neither was any new power aſſumed in taxing them; nor in the exerciſe of an accuſtomed power were they hardly treated in the proportion aſſeſſed; nor were they aggrieved by any oppreſſive mode of collecting; nor were they called to contribute towards ſervices in which they had not an immediate intereſt. What then was the grievance? It exiſted in imagination only. They were afraid, that one time or other, God knows when, they ſhould be aggrieved; either by being aſſeſſed beyond their proportion; or by being ſubjected to an oppreſſive mode of payment; or by being forced to contribute to ſervices in which they had no imme-

* Since the acceſſion of the Houſe of Hanover, that is, during a ſpace of ſixty years, G. Britain has expended on the revolted ſubjects no leſs a ſum than 34,697,142 l. 10 s. 10 d. See vouchers in "The Rights of Great Britain aſſerted." [xxxviii. 29.]

diate

diate intereſt; and therefore they would not be taxed at all. To prevent an evil, poſſible only in future, they refuſe to ſubmit to a preſent certain duty. To guard againſt oppreſſion at ſome diſtant period, they think it right to fly out into actual rebellion.

Art. XVIII. For depriving us, in many caſes, of the benefit of trial by jury.

Ans. The caſes in which the Americans are deprived of the benefit of trial by jury, are confined to thoſe, the cognizance of which is attributed to the courts of admiralty.

To alledge, either the inſtitution, or the juriſdiction, of theſe courts, in ſupport of the charge of uſurpation, the congreſs ſhould have proved,—either that courts of admiralty were unknown in the colonies, till the preſent reign,—or that their juriſdiction has been extended to caſes, to which, in no preceding reign, it ever had been extended.

The former of theſe aſſertions, ſo long as there remains a ſingle copy of our ſtatute-books, there is no great danger of their making. The latter they have made. Yet to what caſes does the juriſdiction of theſe courts at preſent reach? To breaches of the acts of navigation, to queſtions of revenue.—To theſe, and no other. It extends neither to civil ſuits, nor to pleas of the crown. Where then is the extenſion of juriſdiction? The juriſdiction is confined to that claſs of caſes alone, for the determination of which the courts were originally inſtituted.

Of the whole liſt of charges ſo confidently urged againſt his Majeſty, each ſeems to be diſtinguiſhed by its own peculiar abſurdity. In conſidering this charge, for inſtance, one cannot but remark, that no harder meaſure is meted out to the Americans than to their fellow-ſubjects in G. Britain. In America, queſtions of revenue are not decided by a jury. In England, are breaches of the laws of exciſe, of the land-tax, of many other revenue-laws, decided by a jury? Are we therefore at liberty to rebel? to take up arms againſt government? to diſclaim all allegiance to our ſovereign?

The original inſtitution of courts of admiralty was not, we have ſeen, the act of his preſent Majeſty. To him, therefore, if the inſtitution be a wiſe one, no praiſe; if it be unwiſe, no blame, can accrue. It may, however, be worth while to obſerve, that theſe courts were inſtituted, and breaches of the acts of navigation and revenue were referred to them, for reaſons then concluſive, and ſtill ſubſiſting, at leaſt with unabated force. No juſtice could be expected from juries, becauſe no juries could be found who were not partners of the guilt. Under theſe circumſtances, the inſtitution of courts who ſhould decide without a jury, was a remedy which could not but occur, and which has been adopted on other occaſions.

In the beginning of the preſent century, the ſeas of America ſwarmed with pirates. In this virtuous country, it was impoſſible to bring the offenders to juſtice. The chief men among the coloniſts had a joint intereſt with them. Was the governor active in his endeavours to ſuppreſs them? petitions were ſent home againſt him: the King was preſſed to recal him. Did he attempt to ſeize the criminals? his attempts were generally baffled; the coloniſts gave them intelligence. Did he ſucceed in his attempt? ſcarce a magiſtrate could be found to join in the examination and commitment. Were the criminals committed? the gaolers, either intereſted, or bribed, or intimidated, connived at their eſcape. Did they not eſcape, were they tried? ſcarce a jury would convict them. Were they convicted? the laws of the colonies pronounced no adequate puniſhment againſt them.

The loſſes ſuſtained by our merchants were enormous. They applied to parliament; ſtated their grievances, and the impoſſibility of obtaining redreſs in the courts of the colonies *. This was in the reign of K. William, not long after the glorious epoch of the Revolution. Did the parliament at that time conſider it as unconſtitutional, as contrary to the rights of the ſubject, to conſtitute courts, who ſhould decide without juries, even in theſe, which were criminal, capital caſes? No. An act was paſſed (11° & 12° Will. III. c. 7.), impowering his Majeſty to appoint commiſſioners for the trial of pirates in any of his Majeſty's iſlands, plantations, colonies, dominions, forts, or factories. Seven only were enough to conſtitute a court. In the deſcription of the perſons the King was not confined; he might

* See Com. Journ. vol. 13. p. 31. &c.

appoint whomſoever he thought fit to appoint. No jury was to be ſummoned; the majority of ſeven decided without appeal; the perſons condemned were to be executed, and put to death, in ſuch time, in ſuch manner, in ſuch place, as the majority of the court ſhould command.

Did the colonies dare to call in queſtion the right of parliament to enact a law ſo ſevere and unuſual? or to deny the authority of the commiſſioners who acted under it? or to oppoſe the execution of the ſentences they pronounced? — No. — The colonies at that time felt that their exiſtence depended on the protection of G. Britain. The Britiſh government at that time was vigorous and ſtern. Vigorous and ſtern, indeed, was the penalty which enforced the execution of this act.

"Be it enacted," (ſays the legiſlature), "That if any of the governors in the ſaid plantations, or any perſon or perſons in authority there, ſhall refuſe to yield obedience to this act, ſuch refuſal is hereby declared to be a forfeiture of all and every the charters granted for the government or propriety of ſuch plantation."

Had the framers of the ſtamp-act ſpoken in the ſame manly ſtyle, America had never revolted.

Art. XIX. For tranſporting us beyond ſea to be tried for pretended offences.

Ans. The offences to which this article alludes, are, treaſon, miſpriſion of treaſon, and burning his Majeſty's yards, arſenals, ſhips, or ſtores.

Theſe, in a language well exemplified by their conduct, the members of the congreſs ſtyled — *pretended offences*. They had before declared acts of parliament to be *pretended acts of legiſlation*. The progreſſion is neither rapid nor ſurpriſing. If acts of the ſupreme power of the ſtate be only acts of *pretended legiſlation*, offences levelled againſt the exiſtence of the ſtate may well be ſtyled *pretended offences*.

Happily, however, the parliament conſidered them as real offences, and conceived itſelf bound to provide, that men guilty of them, ſhould be brought to condign puniſhment; men accuſed of them, to a fair and impartial trial. To this end, a power is given to the King to order ſuch perſons to be tried in England *. This power was given, in the caſes of treaſon, and miſpriſion of treaſon, by an act of more than two hundred years ſtanding (35° Hen. VIII. c. 2.); in the caſe of burning his Majeſty's ſhips, ſtores, &c. by an act of the preſent reign (12° Geo. III. c. 24.).

As to the power granted, in caſes of treaſon, and miſpriſion of treaſon, by the act of Henry VIII. it cannot, I think, be imputed to his preſent Majeſty as a crime, as a proof of tyranny or uſurpation, that, two hundred years before he was born, the parliament of England thought proper to veſt this power in the hands of the crown. It cannot, I think, be imputed to him as a crime, that, during a period of more than two centuries, in all the ſucceſſive changes and reformations which the conſtitution of England has undergone, this power has remained untouched, till this moment uncenſured; that neither the framers of the petition of rights, or of the bill of rights, nor thoſe who eſtabliſhed the ſucceſſion in the houſe of Hanover, thought it fit or expedient to diveſt the crown of this power, or to alter the proviſion of this act.

This is the more remarkable, as the act in queſtion, though of long ſtanding, is not obſolete, has not, through nonuſe, ſunk into oblivion. From the very nature of the offence, it was not likely that frequent occaſions ſhould occur of putting this act in force. Occaſions, however, have occurred; and whenever they have occurred, the act has been put in force, both before and ſince the Revolution.

Not long before the Revolution, and during the time that diſputes between the proprietors and people of Carolina had excited almoſt a civil war, Sir John Yeomans, the then governor, ſent over one Culpepper, who was tried upon this very act in Weſtminſter-hall, for high treaſon, and acquitted †.

After the Revolution, in the year 1710, the inhabitants of Antigua, diſguſted at the conduct of Col. Parks, their governor, and not having been able to ob-

* To be tried in England, they muſt be brought to England: — ſo long as England, with reſpect to them, is beyond ſea, they cannot be brought to England, without being tranſported beyond ſea.

† See Wynne's Hiſtory of America, vol. 2. p. 455.

tain

tain his recal, roſe in a body, and maſſacred the governor at his own door. That a crime, in the commiſſion of which ſo many had partaken, ſhould be puniſhed as it deſerved, on the ſpot, was not thought likely. The ringleaders were ordered to be ſent to England: they were ſent, and tried upon this very act: ſome were convicted and executed; others reprieved.

So far was this power from being conſidered as unconſtitutional after the Revolution, that in the caſe of the pirates, in the reign of K. William, mentioned under the preceding article, the Lords Juſtices, in the abſence of the King, thought their ſelves bound to order the pirates to be brought into England; did actually fit out one of his Majeſty's ſhips for the purpoſe of bringing them, and the evidence neceſſary for their conviction and puniſhment *. Neither the Lords Juſtices, nor the then judge of the admiralty, Sir Charles Hedges, conceived that the pirates could be tried any where but in England, without a ſpecial act of parliament for that purpoſe †.

It appears, then, that, in addreſſing his Majeſty to enforce the act 35° Henry VIII. the parliament did nothing more than purſue the ordinary courſe of juſtice; than call on his Majeſty to carry into execution a law neither repealed nor obſolete; a law too founded on principles ſo perfectly conſiſtent with the conſtitution, that the ſame proviſions have, in later inſtances, been adopted; inſtances to which, on account of the act of union, it was thought this act would not reach ‡.

With reſpect to the act of the preſent reign, by which thoſe who are guilty of burning his Majeſty's ſhips or ſtores may be likewiſe tried in England, it is ſomething remarkable, that the colonies are not particularly named in it; it is ſaid only in general terms, "that perſons who ſhall commit any of theſe offences in any place out of this realm, may be indicted in any ſhire or county in the realm."

It is however more than probable, that the legiſlature had the colonies in contemplation. The reaſon is this: One of his Majeſty's armed ſloops (the Gaſpee ſchooner) had been ſurpriſed and burnt by the people of Rhode iſland: his magazines and ſtores had been burnt at Boſton. No ſatisfaction could be obtained to his Majeſty; no puniſhment inflicted on the offenders. What was to be done? Were his Majeſty's ſhips to be excluded from the ſeas and ports under his own dominion? Were theſe daring offenders to go unpuniſhed? Was the parliament to give its ſanction to the opinion, then clearly adopted by the people, and ſince avowed by the congreſs, that theſe were only pretended offences? Or was it to have recourſe to the remedy pointed out by the conſtitution, that of calling the offenders to a trial there where alone an impartial trial could be had?

ART. XX. For aboliſhing the free ſyſtem of Engliſh laws in a neighbouring province, eſtabliſhing therein an arbitrary government, and extending its boundaries ſo as to render it at once an example and fit inſtrument for introducing the ſame abſolute rule into theſe colonies.

ANS. What have the revolted colonies to do with his Majeſty's government of another colony? Canada is not dependent on, is not aſſociated with, them. Do the mighty heroes who defy the united force of Britain, begin to tremble at a ſingle province? Are they, who pledge their lives, their fortunes, and their ſacred honours, in defence of liberty, ſo fearful of the ſtrength of their own attachment to liberty, that they dare not look on men who have ſubmitted to what they call arbitrary government, leſt they too catch the contagion, and follow the example? Or are they fearful, that their deluded followers may at length diſcover, that whilſt their leaders are alarming them with acts of pretended tyranny, they are really bringing them under ſubjection to the worſt of all tyrants; — artful, ſelfiſh demagogues?

No regulation concerning another colony can have any right to find a place in the liſt of their own pretended grievances. This would be anſwer ſufficient to this article. Let us however ſee, if the going thus out of their way to make a charge ſo foreign to their own concerns, be compenſated by any degree of candor? What is their objection to the act

* The ſhip was ſhattered by a ſtorm, and forced to put back. The act mentioned in the preceding article was then paſſed.

† See papers relating to Kidd, and the report of Sir Charles Hedges. Com. Journ. vol. 13. p. 36. 37.

‡ Treaſons committed in Scotland, were tried in Surry. See Forſter's Crown-law. Report of the caſe of the Kinlochs. [viii. 593.]

act for regulating the government of Quebec?

The firſt is, That by this act the bounds of Canada are extended. There are little circumſtances which materially change the nature of a tranſaction: theſe a ſkilful narrator tells, or ſuppreſſes, as beſt may ſuit his purpoſe. It ſuited the purpoſe of the congreſs to ſuppreſs, that in this act it is expreſsly provided, That "the boundaries of no other colony ſhall in any wiſe be affected!" that all rights derived from preceding grants and conveyances ſhall be ſaved! Had this been told, their charge was anſwered. That which had not been granted was the property of the King: he might do with it as he pleaſed; erect it into a ſeparate colony, or annex it to any colony already eſtabliſhed. So far then no injury was done.

But this act has aboliſhed the free ſyſtem of Engliſh laws, and eſtabliſhed an arbitrary government. That could not be aboliſhed which had never been eſtabliſhed. The truth is this: Soon after the conqueſt of Canada, temporary proviſions were made, by a proclamation of the King [xxv. 376.], for the government of Canada. Theſe proviſions were in many caſes found inapplicable to the ſtate and circumſtances of the province. They were therefore repealed; and this act was paſſed, re-granting to the Canadians the free exerciſe, unchecked by any civil diſqualifications, of the religion in which they had been educated; re-eſtabliſhing the civil laws, by which, prior to their conqueſt, their perſons and their properties had been protected and ordered. Do the Canadians complain of this alteration? No. It was made in conſequence of their petition.

To diſobey the mandates of New England, and to liſten to the humble petitions of Canada, are equally crimes in his Majeſty. It is a crime to make the minuteſt change in the conſtitution of the revolted provinces; and it is a crime of the ſame nature not to overturn the whole conſtitution of a dutiful province. Not to deviate from the ſpirit of a charter, and to obſerve the ſpirit of a treaty of peace, are both acts of uſurpation. To check innovations at Boſton, and to reſpect the cuſtoms, and prejudices, and habits of thinking in Canada, are acts of the ſame tyranny.

Art. XXI. For taking away our charters; aboliſhing our moſt valuable laws; and altering fundamentally the forms of our government.

Ans. Could this article be proved; were it true, that his Majeſty, in conjunction with his parliament, had "fundamentally altered the forms of the colonial governments," for ſuch an act I ſhould not think it neceſſary to frame excuſes: it would need no excuſe; it would deſerve praiſe. Innovation ſuppoſe it were, glorious would be that innovation. Long ſince had it been incumbent on parliament to do, what in this article is,— alas! untruly — alleged to have been done.

Some alterations are confeſſed to have been made, during the preſent reign, in the charter of Maſſachuſet's-bay; but not a valuable law has been changed; nor have the alterations gone deep enough into the foundations of the government. The charter has been only amended in one or two particulars; it ought to have been new-modelled from one end to the other; or rather to have been taken away, and a new one ſubſtituted in its ſtead.

Had it been taken away, could theſe people have complained? Give to charters what force you pleaſe,— give them the higheſt,— give them all the ſanctity of treaties of peace between independent ſtates; ſtill ſuch has been the conduct of the people and the magiſtrates of Maſſachuſet's-bay, that the charters would have been rightfully forfeited. What are treaties? compacts made up of mutual conditions. If one party fail in the performance of that which it ſtipulates to perform, the other is abſolved from the performance of that which on its part is ſtipulated to be performed. Now it is not denied, that one condition expreſſed in all the charters is, that the coloniſts ſhall be deemed ſubjects of this realm; that is, ſubject to the power of parliament. To have denied the power of parliament is therefore a forfeiture of the charter.

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What is the charter under which the preſent inhabitants of Maſſachuſets claim? An act of K. William. And that act, has it remained unaltered? have no fundamental changes been made in it by the crown in later times?

In the 12th of George I. in the year 1722, ſome turbulent members of the aſſembly having gained the aſcendant over their fellow-repreſentatives, and in ſome meaſure over the council, endeavoured to ſubject the Governor likewiſe to their uſurped authority. But the Governor was too faithful a guardian of the rights of the crown. He repaired to England, and exhibited at the council-board, articles of complaint againſt the Houſe of Repreſentatives. His complaints were heard: the provincial agent, in the name of the Repreſentatives, acknowledged many of the claims to be incroachments, and readily gave up all but two. Theſe were, the power claimed by the aſſembly of adjourning themſelves as long as they pleaſe; and the right of chuſing a Speaker, not ſubject to the Governor's negative. Of theſe two claims, which the agent was not authoriſed to give up, they were ouſted by an explanatory charter; which they were commanded to accept; and which, with all due ſubmiſſion, they did accept *.

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neceſſity." That is, they ſubmitted with a good grace to a power which they knew to be legal.

Theſe are inſtances of alterations made in the charters by the ſole power of the crown. Acts to which the crown was competent alone, could not ſurely be without the ſphere of its power united with parliament.

Never till the preſent troubles does a doubt ſeem to have been entertained, in or out of either Houſe of Parliament, whether parliament could alter the charters, abridge the privileges granted by them, or even reaſſume them.

The proviſions of that act of K. William (7. 8. Will. III. c. 22. ſect. 16.), which reſtrain the proprietors from ſelling their lands, without the conſent of his Majeſty previouſly obtained, to any but natural-born ſubjects; — which command, that the governors appointed by the proprietors, or other perſons impowered to nominate governors, ſhall not act, till his Majeſty's approbation be previouſly obtained; and till they have taken certain oaths, relating to the execution of their office, — are ſo many changes introduced into the charters, ſo many abridgements of the powers originally conveyed by them.

The clauſe of the act for the more effectual ſuppreſſion of piracy (11. 12. Will. III. c. 7. ſect. 15.), which declares, that the refuſal of any governor, or perſon in authority, to yield obedience to that act, ſhall be a forfeiture of all and every the charters granted for the government or propriety of ſuch plantation, is not a naked declaration of the right to revoke all charters; it is an actual commencement of the exertion of that right, ſuſpended only by the obedience of the colonies to that law.

And indeed, ſo little does it ſeem to have been doubted, that the parliament might reaſſume the charters, that in the reign of K. William, and in many ſucceeding reigns, the board of trade ſuggeſted to parliament, that ſuch reaſſumption was the only effectual remedy againſt the repeated violations of the laws for regulating the trade and government of the charter and proprietary colonies*.

The cauſe of complaint againſt the proprietary and charter governments, ſtill continuing, and acquiring new force, parliament had it in contemplation to adopt the meaſure ſuggeſted by the board of trade †. A bill was ordered, in the 4th of Q. Anne, to be brought into the Houſe of Commons for the better regulation of theſe governments: it was actually brought in, and read. It failed, not from any doubt of the authority of parliament to new-regulate the governments, but in ſome meaſure from a ſpirit of party, in ſome meaſure from a wiſh of poſtponing a buſineſs which required ſo mature deliberation, till a concluſion ſhould be put to a war, the extent and complicated objects of which, required all the attention of government.

So far was this power of reaſſumption from being thought unconſtitutional, that in the ſucceeding reign a bill was again brought into the Houſe of Commons for the ſame purpoſe of new regulating the charter and proprietary governments in America ‡. It was brought in and ſupported by a Whig miniſtry. But it happened to be late in the ſeſſions ere it was brought in: it was, however, read twice; it was committed: petitions were heard againſt it from all the charter and proprietary governments; none of which preſumed at that time to call in queſtion the right of parliament to new-model the governments of America. Unhappily the bill was not perfected that ſeſſion, and the rebellion which broke out in the ſucceeding year, turned the attention of government to events nearer home.

Let any impartial man reflect a moment on the power, which, from this

both at the ſame time, and both to have been effected by act of parliament. The change in the government was begun long before the ſurrender of the territorial rights; and it is this laſt only which is confirmed by 2 Geo. II.

* See Com. Journal, vols. 12. 13. paſſim. To thoſe with whom the weight of name is greater than the weight of argument, it may not be uſeleſs to remark, that theſe ſuggeſtions from the board of trade were firſt made at a time that Mr Locke ſat at the board; that great man, whoſe arguments the Americans have ſo tortured, in order to preſs them into the ſervice of rebellion. For in the Reports printed in the Journals, and made in the year 1700, 1701, &c. reference is made to reports of the years immediately preceding, where this advice to reaſſume the charters is given. Mr Locke ſat at the board of trade from 1695 to 1700.

† See Com. Journ. vol. 15. p. 151. 180

‡ See Com. Journ. vol. 18. p. 262.

ſhort

ſhort account, appears to have been claimed, and in ſo many inſtances exerciſed, by preceding kings and preceding parliaments; let him compare it with the power exerciſed over them in the preſent reign. On the one hand, what will he ſee? By the ſole act of the crown, he will ſee proprietors diveſted, ſome of the right of naming governors, others of all juriſdiction; colonies, of the command of their forts and militia; aſſemblies, of the power of adjourning *ad libitum*, and chuſing a Speaker, not ſubject to the Governor's negative. — By the concurrent act of the crown and parliament, he will ſee the right of reaſſuming all the charters in general aſſerted, and not denied by the coloniſts their ſelves; he will ſee that right actually begun to be exerted, and ſuſpended only by the obedience of the colonies to an act of parliament. — On the other hand, under the preſent reign, what changes will he ſee? He will ſee the conſtitution of one of their legiſlatures brought nearer to the model of the Britiſh conſtitution: He will ſee juries appointed as juries are appointed in England. By the former change he will ſee their conſtitution more equally poiſed; by the latter, juſtice more impartially adminiſtered.

On this general ground, we might ſafely reſt the defence of the act in queſtion. On this general compariſon we might leave it to the world to judge what room there is to alledge this article in ſupport of the charge of uſurpation and tyranny. But it may, perhaps, be not altogether uſeleſs, to ſtate more particularly the changes made in the conſtitution of the Maſſachuſets government, and to alledge the reaſons which induced the parliament to make them.

The two material changes introduced by the act for regulating the government of Maſſachuſets-bay, are, firſt, in the mode of appointing juries; ſecondly, in the appointment and tenure of the members of the council.

Before this act, the jurors of the grand juries were choſen and returned by the freemen, on notice ſent them by the clerk of the court. Out of the perquiſites of the court, they had a ſalary of three or four ſhillings a-day *. What was the conſequence of this mode of appointment? Juries were packt. They were nominated at the town-meetings by the heads of a party. A jury, for inſtance, was ſummoned to inquire into riots: Among theſe impartial, reſpectable jurors, one was returned who was a principal in the very riot into which it was the buſineſs of this very jury to enquire †. Can any man entertain a moment's doubt, whether this part of their conſtitution ſtood in need of reformation?

The next material change, we have ſaid, was in the appointment and tenure of the members of the council. This council was a conſtituent branch of the legiſlature; it was moreover a council of ſtate; that is, in ſome caſes, a branch of the executive power; for its conſent was neceſſary to the performance of certain acts, and its advice was to be aſked, at leaſt, if not followed, previous to many other acts, to be done by the Governor. The members of this council, to whom functions ſo diſtinct and important were attributed, were not only eligible, but, in caſe of miſdemeanor, amovable, by the general aſſembly. The inconveniencies of this had been ſeverely felt by a long ſucceſſion of governors: their letters are filled with complaints of them. To be known, to be believed, to be even ſuſpected, to be inclined to ſupport the ſupreme authority of parliament, or the conſtitutional rights of the King, in the provincial government, was ſufficient reaſon for excluſion from the provincial council. Did the council appear to be a little untractable? did it heſitate to go all lenghts on what was called the popular ſide? it was reminded that the day of election was at hand. What reſiſtance could a council thus dependent give to the extravagance of a democratic party? Deprived as it was of that free agency, without which, power cannot ſubſiſt; of that reſpect and dignity, without which, it cannot operate; what advantage would the conſtitution derive from ſuch a council in its legiſlative capacity? — Conſider it in its executive capacity, and it was to be full as uſeleſs. What vigour could it be expected to ſhew? what power could it exert? Let us ſee what vigour it did ſhew; what power it did exert. By bands of armed men parading publicly at noonday, in the ſight of the magiſtrates, private property was deſtroyed; the property of the King ſeized; his magazines razed to

* See Appendix to Neal's Hiſtory of England, vol. 2. p. 4. title, "Juries."

† See printed letters of Governors Hutchinſon and Oliver, p. 31. [xxiv. 408 480.]

the ground; his officers compelled by torture to reſign their employments, his courts broken open; his judges aſſaulted; the files and public records deſtroyed; the houſes of his governors pillaged. — The council mean-while looked on as cool and unconcerned ſpectators. They were exhorted to enforce the orders of government; to adviſe and aſſiſt the Governor in the execution of them: — what was their reply? — "They did not ſee their way clear enough to give any advice or aſſiſtance."

Was it then an act of tyranny in the parliament, was it an unpardonable crime, to reſcue one branch of their government from ſuch a ſlaviſh dependence on another branch, as defeated all the advantages to be derived from it?

ART. XXII. For ſuſpending, &c.

[*To be continued.*]

SIR, *St James's, April* 12.

AS I am conſcious of having no other motive in troubling you, than the good of my fellow-creatures, I ſhall make no apology for requeſting permiſſion to preſent the public with the recipe of a moſt valuable and ſovereign remedy, from the vegetable kingdom, which, by extenſive experience has hitherto been found to prove extremely efficacious, in entirely eradicating, with perfect eaſe and ſafety, every ſpecies of the Scurvy, Leproſy, and all diſorders whatever which derive their origin from any impurities of the blood and juices. Thoſe afflicted with the Scrofula, vulgarly called the *King's-Evil*, though in general an hereditary diſeaſe, by duly perſevering in the regular uſe of it, will aſſuredly find ſuch amazing benefit, as happily to convince them of its great value and utility. In the very worſt ſtages of the true Rheumatiſm, its effects are remarkably ſucceſsful; and I know not any thing in the whole *materia medica* that bids fairer to prove of infinite ſervice alſo in the Gout. The medicine which unſolicited I now lay before the public, is an agreeable vegetable ſyrup, very eaſily made, exceedingly pleaſant to take, and at the ſame time ſo mild and ſafe in its operation, as not in the leaſt to endanger or diſturb the œconomy of the human frame, attended likewiſe with the ſatisfaction of knowing, together with the liberty of freely examining and inveſtigating, upon the true principles of botany, every ingredient of which it is compoſed. Even with the Veronica alone (Male Speedwell) the great Boerhaave, in his hiſtory of plants, declares, that he has cured above a hundred diſeaſes; and many of the inhabitants of France can alſo teſtify the very powerful and happy effects of that ſingle plant in removing a great variety of diſorders.

I have only to obſerve, that the preſent ſeaſon of the year is the moſt proper time to enter upon a courſe of the above-mentioned ſyrup. — I am, &c.

CHRISTOPHER WESTON.

RECIPE.

Take of the leaves of Male Speedwell, four ounces:
Bark of Elder, two ounces;
Winter's Bark, three ounces;
Angelica Root, ſliced thin, half a pound;
Comfrey Root,
Fennel Root, — of each (ſliced) four ounces.

Boil theſe ingredients together in two gallons of ſoft water, over a ſlow fire, till one half is conſumed; then ſtrain off the decoction into a clean earthen pan, and let it ſtand all night to ſettle; in the morning carefully pour off the clear liquor from the ſediment, and diſſolve therein three pounds of treble-refined ſugar, and two pounds of virgin-honey, which are to be gently ſimmered into a thin ſyrup.

The doſe is a large tea-cup-full, night and morning; or rather in ſome caſes morning, noon, and night; adding to each doſe at the time of taking it, a ſmall tea-ſpoonfull of the late celebrated Dr Huxham's Eſſence of Antimony, which greatly heightens and improves the virtue of the medicine.

CHARACTERS. By Lord Cheſterfield.

To Biſhop Chenevix, 1765.

YOUR Lord Lieutenant [Lord Hertford] will be with you very ſoon. — I really think he will be liked: for he is, in my opinion, the honeſteſt and moſt religious man in the world, and moreover very much a gentleman in his behaviour to every body.

1766.

YOU have a new Lord Lieutenant [Lord Townſhend]. I have ſeen him once, and he ſeems reſolved to do well. One thing I verily believe, that he will have no dirty work done, nor the leaſt corruption ſuffered.

AME-

AMERICA. [151.]

An addreſs ſigned by all the inhabitants of James-town, dated, Jan. 3. 1777, was preſented to Earl Percy, viz.

"To his Excellency the Rt Hon. HUGH EARL PERCY, Lieutenant-General, commanding his Majeſty's Forces within the colony of Rhode iſland, &c.

May it pleaſe your Excellency,

WE the ſubſcribers, freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of James-town, on the iſland of Conanicut, beg leave to congratulate your Excellency upon your arrival among us, as it affords the pleaſing proſpect of a ſpeedy reſtoration of his Majeſty's authority and government within this part of the colony, where many of the inhabitants have long ſuffered the ſevereſt evils from the wanton exerciſe of lawleſs power. We are ſo ſenſible of the bleſſings reſulting from a conſtitutional connection with the parent-ſtate, that your Excellency may be aſſured it is our ardent wiſh once more to enjoy the King's moſt gracious protection, and that we may be declared at his peace.

The many inſtances of clemency manifeſted by your immediate predeceſſor, his Excellency General Clinton, toward the inhabitants of Rhode iſland and Conanicut, upon his taking poſſeſſion of thoſe iſlands, demands our warmeſt acknowledgements; and from your Lordſhip's known character for benevolence and humanity, we are fully perſuaded that we ſhall be admitted to the enjoyment of our liberties and properties upon the true principles of the conſtitution. We humbly preſume to repreſent to your Lordſhip, that we bear true and faithful allegiance to his Majeſty King George, his ſacred perſon, crown, and dignity; and do ſeverally promiſe and declare, that we will remain in a peaceable obedience to his Majeſty, and will not take up arms, nor encourage others to take up arms, in oppoſition to his authority."

To which his Excellency was pleaſed to return the following anſwer.

"Gentlemen, It gives me the greateſt ſatisfaction to find ſuch expreſſions of loyalty to his Majeſty, and attachment to the Britiſh conſtitution, contained in your addreſs. You may be aſſured, that I ſhall not fail to communicate to his Majeſty's Commiſſioners your wiſh once more to enjoy the King's moſt gracious protection, and to be declared at his peace. The compliments which you are pleaſed to pay my immediate predeceſſor, General Clinton, for his behaviour during the time of his command here, are juſtly his due; and I flatter myſelf, that, by endeavouring to follow his example, I ſhall merit your good opinion: for, be aſſured, it is my wiſh, equally with every other Britiſh officer, to protect the loyal and peaceable inhabitants of America in the full enjoyment of their liberties and properties, upon the principles of the conſtitution."

From the New-York Gazette, March 17.

"By his Excellency Sir William Howe, Knight of the Moſt Honourable Order of the Bath, one of his Majeſty's Commiſſioners for reſtoring peace to the Colonies, General and Commander in Chief all his Majeſty's forces within the Colonies lying on the Atlantic Ocean, from Nova Scotia to Weſt Florida, incluſive, &c.

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas it has been repreſented to me, that many of his Majeſty's European and American ſubjects are compelled by force, or otherwiſe induced, to bear arms in oppoſition to the re-eſtabliſhment of the conſtitutional authority of government in America, and are diſcouraged from returning to their allegiance by ill-founded doubts of the reception ſuch tender of their duty may meet with: I therefore declare, and do hereby promiſe and engage, That all perſons bearing arms as aforeſaid, who ſhall ſurrender themſelves to any officer commanding any part of his Majeſty's forces, on or before the firſt day of May next, ſhall be intitled to pardon for all offences heretofore committed againſt his crown and dignity, and their eſtates and effects be ſecured from ſeizure, forfeiture, or confiſcation:—That every non-commiſſioned officer and private man who ſhall come in with his arms, ſhall alſo receive the full value for them:—That the American-born ſubjects ſhall be permitted to enter into any of the Provincial corps in his Majeſty's ſervice, or to return home, as they think fit:—and that the Britiſh and Iriſh born ſubjects ſhall either be taken into his Majeſty's ſervice, or conveyed to the place of their nativity, at their own option.

Given under my hand, at head quarters in New York, March 15. 1777.

W. HOWE.

By his Excellency's command,

ROBERT MACKENZIE, Sec."

"The following Declaration has been ſigned by the inhabitants of the city and county of New York. As it is expreſſive of their loyalty, and abhorrence of the preſent rebellion, you are requeſted to give it a place in your paper, that the rebels may no longer be deluded into a belief, that they have any advocates in this loyal city for their tyranny and oppreſſion. D. MATTHEWS." [xxxviii. 650.]

"Whereas certain perſons, now members of what is ſtyled the Provincial Congreſs of New York, do claim, and actually exerciſe, a power of repreſenting this city and county, and are with ſuch congreſs purſuing meaſures totally ſubverſive, as well of his Majeſty's government, as of our liberty and happineſs; we, therefore, the freeholders and inhabitants of this city and county of New York, whoſe names are hereunto ſubſcribed, do hereby, in the moſt explicit manner, diſavow, renounce, and diſclaim ſuch their aſſumption of power, and all ſubmiſſion or obedience to any orders or reſolutions of the ſaid provincial congreſs, and of any continental congreſs, committees, or conventions whatſoever, claiming to exerciſe any unlawful power over us; — hereby recogniſing and acknowledging our ſubmiſſion to his Majeſty's government, under which alone we wiſh and expect to receive thoſe ſolid and permanent bleſſings which are peculiar to the Britiſh conſtitution, and the inheritance of a Britiſh ſubject." *New-York gaz. March* 17.

"*Baltimore, in Maryland, Jan.* 16. His Excellency Patrick Henry, Eſq; Governor of the commonwealth of Virginia, by the advice of his privy council, hath iſſued a proclamation, dated the 3d inſt. ſtrictly enjoining and requiring all the natives of G. Britain who were partners with factors, agents, ſtorekeepers, aſſiſtant ſtorekeepers, or clerks, in that commonwealth, for any merchant or merchants in G. Britain, on the 1ſt of January 1776, the time the act of the Britiſh parliament for reſtraining the trade of America, and ſeizing our property upon the water, took place, to depart the commonwealth, with their goods, within forty days, except ſuch of the ſaid natives as have uniformly manifeſted a friendly diſpoſition to the American cauſe, or are attached to this country, by having wives or children here, agreeable to a reſolution of the general aſſembly, &c. In the mean time, ſuch perſons are at liberty to diſpoſe of their goods and merchandiſe to any perſon or perſons who may be willing to purchaſe the ſame."

The following is an addreſs from General Roberdeau to the Pennſylvania aſſociators, on the banks of the Delaware, a few days before the capture of the Heſſians. [76, 8.]

"Gentlemen, As it hath pleaſed Providence, for the exerciſe of our patience, and for the defence of that freedom which we inherit from the great giver of all things, to call us from our families to the field; and as I have the honour of being your general officer; I truſt you will take it well in me to endeavour to point out to you whatever appears neceſſary, either for your own particular good, or the more noble object, the good of all.

It is our unavoidable lot to live in the day of trial; and, for my own part, as I am perſuaded, from the haughty diſpoſition of the Engliſh nabobs towards us, that a day of bloody ſeparation muſt one time or other have happened; on that account, I ſay, I think it my duty to rejoice, and to reckon it among the number of my felicities in this world, that it hath happened at a time when I can bear my part therein. If we can leave peace and freedom to our children and poſterity, we leave them a fortune more valuable than gold.

As to our preſent condition, as ſoldiers in camp, I would adviſe you to reflect, that a young army, ſo ſuddenly collected, and having every thing to learn and to provide, will unavoidably be put to many inconveniencies, eſpecially at firſt. It is a new life to us all; and young beginners in every ſtate muſt expect trouble. But as we have taken up the ſword, ſo likewiſe muſt we take up the croſs, of a ſoldier, and go through the difficulties as well as dangers of the field. Hardſhip is the ſoldier's fate; and there is as much true honour in bearing it with a manly fortitude, as in facing the cannon of an enemy. Patience under difficulties is one of the firſt virtues in a military character, and without which no man, however brave, will ever be a ſoldier.

A number of complaints have been very juſtly made, reſpecting the proviſions delivered out by the commiſſaries; and I aſſure you that no care or duty has been wanting in me, in concurrence with

with my ſenior in command, General Mercer, [ſince killed, 143.], to have the proviſions good, and the quantities juſtly given out: yet, after all, we muſt not expect to have things about us with that order and œconomy with which we had them at home. In times like theſe, ſome ſacrifice of conveniency muſt always be made to neceſſity; and if any man among us is ſo loſt to all ſenſe of virtue, in this important ſtruggle for life, liberty, and property, and the conſervation of them to poſterity, who cannot for a ſhort time put up with a ſoldier's fare, that he may afford his country that ſervice ſhe calls for, and which is greater than, in all probability, will ever be in his power again, ſuch a man is beneath mine and every honeſt American's reſpect and notice.

But I find myſelf under the unpleaſant neceſſity of taking notice of a diſſatisfied ſpirit which ſome how or other has crept in among ſome of us. Of your valour I make no doubt; and I warn you, as friends and fellow-ſoldiers, that you liſten not to thoſe who would wiſh to ſtir up diſcontent and uneaſineſs. "Let us go home; we cannot face the King's troops," has been the cry of ſome. What, my friends, turn your back upon your enemies in a few weeks! Can you expect any thing leſs than that the enemy will follow you to your homes, joined with large bodies of Tories, that will flock to them the moment you leave the ſpot? —— But we have wives and families, and our buſineſs is at ſtake.— The more reaſon then have you to ſtay: you are the very men whoſe duty it is not to go. Here is the ſpot to make your defence; if you have a mind to keep the enemy from ravaging your country as they have the Jerſeys, fight them on this ſpot: there is no difference between retreating and being defeated. Conſider it well, Gentlemen; think for your country's good; look but acroſs the water, and for your honour's ſake never let it be ſaid that an army of ſixpenny ſoldiers, picked up from priſons and dungeons, freed from tranſportation, the whipping-poſt, and gallows, fighting for the worſt of cauſes, and for the worſt of kings, bore the fatigue of war better than you.—— That we have left a number of diſaffected men behind us, who have contributed nothing, or no juſt proportion, to the ſervice of the country which gives them bread, is too true; and that there are others meanly ſeeking to enrich themſelves by your abſence, is equally true: but let not their vices be our example; if they have failed in duty, that is no reaſon we ſhould.

As a neceſſary companion to your bravery, I would recommend to you, Gentlemen, a ſtrict obſervance of the diſcipline and duty of a ſoldier. A true ſpirit of liberty is a ſpirit of order. There can be no liberty preſerved without order. The Engliſh army derive all their ſtrength from a cloſe attention to diſcipline. With them it ſupplies the want of virtue. In ſhort, Gentlemen, though our cauſe is the moſt noble that ever men fought to defend, yet bravery without order will not be ſufficient for the work we have to do. As we abound in the firſt, let us add to it the advantage of the laſt; and with thoſe united, under the ſmiles of Heaven, we have no reaſon to fear a glorious iſſue to our righteous cauſe."

"*London, April* 29. A gentleman who was a priſoner in America, has brought to Whitehaven a Boſton almanack for this year, in which the days of his Majeſty's birth, acceſſion, &c. are not marked as uſual, but the particular days relative to Oliver Cromwell inſtead of them. The year is denoted by the "firſt of American Independence, which began July 4. 1776."

Some ſkirmiſhes have happened, in which, according to the accounts of the oppoſite ſides, either ſide claims the advantage.

Excerpts of a letter from New York, dated Dec. 18. 1776, *from the lady of Capt.* ——— *of the* 71*ſt regiment, to a friend in Scotland.*

—— We were unhappy enough, on the 29th May, to fall in with a rebel-brigantine called the Andrew and Doria, commanded by one Capt. Ruddle of Rhode iſland. We had no manner of defence beſides ſmall arms, and this ſhip had ſixteen carriage-guns, with five or ſix ſwivels, and about 180 marines and ſailors. To make any reſiſtance was thought madneſs: accordingly we, and another tranſport of the 42d, which was in the ſame defenceleſs ſituation, ſtruck, and were all taken priſoners in the midſt of a very high rolling ſea and boiſterous weather. All the privates were put into one tranſport, and all the officers into another. The waves were mountain-high that day. I looked every moment for ſome of the boats that conveyed the

ſoldiers

ſoldiers from one ſhip to the other to be ſwallowed up by the jaws; in the mean time, they brought both ſhips ſo cloſe, that the one daſhed againſt the other, with ſuch violence, that I imagined a few minutes would ſend us to the bottom of the deep. Thank Almighty God, we all eſcaped without any damage to either of the ſhips. My ſituation during this ſcene, you may readily conceive; for I cannot deſcribe it, now that it is over; may Heaven protect me from ſuch another, for it was *Horror! Horror!* ſuch as I hope never more to experience.— We were at laſt, after being in the mercy of thoſe fellows for a fortnight, relieved by the appearance of the Cerberus man of war, who again reſtored us to liberty. But it was momentary. The commander Capt. L———s of the navy, abſolutely refuſed to convoy us out of the reach of the privateers that were hovering round the coaſt, and expoſed us once more to the rebels. According to our fears, we were again picked up by a rebel-ſloop, who carried us aſhore, and a few hours after we were carried to Long iſland.— Long iſland is very properly named: it is ſuppoſed to be 150 miles in length; I cannot know how wide; and is a moſt beautiful country. — We remained there for ſome days under a ſtrong guard, till the rebels ordered us to New York, which is divided from Long iſland by an exceeding pretty river. The ſame river ſeparates New York from the Jerſeys; I forget its name. — We were tranſported in waggons, (moſt wretched machines indeed) to York ferry, to the houſe of a rebel-general, one Green, who had formerly been an ironmonger. Promotions in the rebel-army are very ſudden: nothing more common, than to ſee the man who makes ſhoes one day, marching at the head of a regiment the next: but indeed ſuch a regiment as you never ſaw, of wretched ragamuffians, deſtitute of food and raiment. But to return to our hiſtory: We paſſed the day at the general's. His lady, a moſt complete vixin, aukward, rude, and unpoliſhed, had not the humanity to offer us any refreſhment, or a bed to lie on, which we needed much. Some of the rebel-officers were ſo kind and compaſſionate as to conduct us to other lodgings, where we were more civilly treated.— We arrived next morning at this city, where a man that calls himſelf *Lord Stirling* came, and waited of us, to give us orders, not to dare to ſet foot on the ſtreet without a guard: The ladies were here confined as well as gentlemen. Here Capt. ——— wrote you, &c. &c. and gave them open to the congreſs. They could not be ſent on any other terms; who promiſed to ſend them on board the Aſia man of war with a flag, in order to be ſent to Britain.— From New York we were ſent up North river, about 100 miles, in a ſmall ſloop, ſubject to all the inſolence of a rude guard of common ſoldiers, exulting over our diſtreſs.— We arrived at Sopas two days after we left York. This was the place of our deſtination; a moſt infernal hole! inhabited by Dutch people, who are the meaneſt, rudeſt, dirtieſt hogs you ever ſaw.— We paſſed the ſummer in this hell, where we never ſaw a creature that we could ſpeak to.—The gentlemen were upon parole, and had the liberty of ſix miles round the country; this was all the little recreation we had for tedious ten weeks.— When that expired, we were again tranſported, like felons, farther into the country, to Morriſtown in New Jerſey. We travelled 190 miles through the worſt road I ever ſaw, in horrid jolting waggons, expoſed to the ſun, (which was then intolerably hot), without any cover, except a little ſhade from our umbrellas, which we had not ſtrength to hold, we were ſo feeble with the heat.— We found ourſelves much more tolerable at this laſt place, as the inhabitants were all Engliſh. But they were the moſt deluded people I ever ſaw: they imagined, that all the force of Europe would never conquer America. I believe by this time their dream of liberty is paſſed, and they are a little awakened. —The declaration of independence was read every where all over the continent, with many demonſtrations of joy: this the news-papers would inform you more particularly than I can.— In Moriſtown we remained about ſeven weeks, and then were ordered to go to Brunſwick, to be exchanged; which was indeed a relief to us poor priſoners; but, alas! we were diſappointed.— After paſſing a fortnight at Brunſwick, we were informed that the exchange would not take place. For that reaſon, and our *friend* Lord Stirling coming there with his rebel-brigade, with his uſual politeneſs he ordered us away to a ſcattered village, where was no lodging tolerable even for a highland ſoldier.— We remained in this

baniſhment

banishment for ten days, and then were ordered to Ridingtown in Pennsylvania, about 200 miles from the place where we were. This last order exasperated the gentlemen very much; I, for my part, was not able to undertake such a journey in the carriages that were provided for us, and the other lady, who had been taken with us, Mrs C——l, was fully more unfit for such an expedition. Capt. ——— undertook to ask leave of General Washington for Mrs C———l and me to come here by ourselves, not expecting leave for any of the gentlemen: but this polite rebel had the discretion to allow the whole of us to come here together with a flag of truce, and trusted to General Howe's sending officers in their stead; which indeed he could easily do, having three prisoners to one that the rebels have.—The extravagance of this town is intolerable.—You can have no idea of it. At market a turkey or a good goose is sold at 14 s. York, which is 7 s. 6 d. Sterling. Mutton is 8 d. per lb.; beef 10 d. and butter 5 s. 6 d. Cloathing is still higher in proportion. The profits that merchants exact at present on their goods is beyond measure. Taverns and ordinaries are still higher. Capt. ——— and I only dined and supped at one since we came here, and it cost us three guineas. Lodging and furniture are amazingly dear. Indeed, if the prices of things are not regulated, there will be no living at all in this country. The situation of this country is desperate. If something is not done for the relief of the poor sufferers, (such as have been friends to government), families that have lived in the greatest affluence, will be reduced to absolute poverty.—This instant five or six officers came running into the room to tell me, that the infernal rebel Lee is taken for certain, which gives us all joy that such a villain is in custody.

December 18. I will now finish this letter with telling you, that we have spent a most disagreeable half year among the most deluded desperate wretches that ever existed. They are not sensible of any favour or indulgence that is shewn them. I am still afraid of their contriving to set this town on fire again, for I believe them capable of any thing. Poor miserable wretches, they have ruined themselves, and ruined the country. I am confirmed in my bad opinion of them every day.

PARLIAMENT. [139.]

On Wednesday, April 9. Lord North waited on the King at the levee, after an illness of seven weeks. His Lordship then went to the House of Commons, and presented the following message.

"GEORGE R.

It gives his Majesty much concern to find himself obliged to acquaint this House with the difficulties he labours under, by reason of debts incurred by the expences of his household, and of his civil government; which being computed on the 5th day of January last, do amount to more than 600,000 l. His Majesty, relying on the loyal and affectionate attachment of this House to his person and government, which he has experienced on so many occasions, doubts not of their readiness to concur in enabling him to discharge this debt; and for making some further provision for the better support of his Majesty's household, and of the honour and dignity of the crown. G. R."

As soon as the message was read, Lord North moved to refer it to the supply-committee, to be taken into consideration on Wednesday the 16th. His Lordship observed, that it had been customary on such occasions to go into the consideration of the message immediately; but that he thought proper, for their fuller satisfaction, to lay some accounts before the House, that they might be in possession of the several heads of expenditure, whereby the civil-list debt was incurred, before they proceeded to vote the money. He should therefore move to have the committee of supply deferred till Wednesday.

Mr Baker observed, that the Noble Lord's language was, indeed, of a very novel nature. His Lordship had acknowledged it to be the constant rule to go into the business of such messages as soon as received; yet, without assigning any special reason to create the distinction on the present occasion, the Noble Lord has moved to postpone the business for a week. Either there was always a reason to go immediately into the consideration of royal messages, or there was never any. If there was, why depart from an established rule? If there was not, why not shew in what manner, or in what circumstance, the message of this day differs from every other that ever preceded it?

Gov.

Gov. Johnſtone purſued the idea of his Hon. friend, and wiſhed that adminiſtration would ſpeak out. Were adminiſtration agreed among themſelves? or had they fabricated accounts, purely to furniſh parliament with a decent pretence to vote away the public money? No man in that Houſe would be readier to pay a proper attention and regard to a meſſage from the crown, than he would, nor wiſhed more to have its luſtre and dignity preſerved and ſupported; but it was mean and ignoble in the repreſentatives of the people, to vote ſuch immenſe ſums of money, without knowing previouſly how it was expended. It was the only check the public had, to compel a due adminiſtration of government; and if that power was once relinquiſhed, or groſsly abuſed, the terms of a limited government was a farce. The power in any country which commands the purſe, commands the nation; and there was no eſſential difference between the poſſeſſing the public purſe, and being able to command it. The laſt meſſage was accompanied by no papers; the money was granted firſt, and the accounts followed after. The preſent meſſage is preceded by accounts, and the conſequence will be preciſely the ſame. The event in either caſe would be the ſame: for if the accounts meant any thing, they meant to inform the Houſe how the money was expended; and he appealed to the moſt expert accountant in the houſe, whether he could, at ſo ſhort a notice, make himſelf ſo thoroughly acquainted with the contents of the papers now preſented, as to decide whether the debt was properly incurred. It was his opinion, therefore, that the papers ought to have preceded the meſſage, and that the time given to conſider them was infinitely too ſhort.

Lord North replied, that a week was full time to learn the neceſſary information; that his ſtate of health had been very indifferent for ſome weeks paſt, and he was yet but very poorly; and that the principal reaſon why he deſired to poſtpone the conſideration of the meſſage till Wedneſday, was, that he hoped by that day to be in ſufficient health and ſpirits to be able to anſwer any queſtions which gentlemen might think proper to put, in order to elucidate whatever ſhould ſeem obſcure or unintelligible on the face of the accounts.

Mr Stanley ſaid, he had ſearched the journals, and found, that the invariable rule had been in ſuch caſes, to go into the meſſage immediately, from 1713 to 1769 [xxxi. 570.], the date of the laſt meſſage, incluſive; but whatever the uſage might have been, he thought the Houſe were much obliged to the Noble Lord for his candour, to accompany the meſſage with the accounts on which the meſſage was founded. The putting off the conſideration of it for a week, was another inſtance of the Noble Lord's candour; as great numbers were abſent from their duty in parliament, not expecting that any thing of conſequence would be ſo ſoon agitated; that probably by Wedneſday the greateſt part of the members would be returned from the country; and that, if no other reaſon exiſted, it was an indulgence due to the Noble Lord himſelf, to defer the conſideration till his Lordſhip's health was re-eſtabliſhed. The motion was agreed to without further oppoſition.

Mr Stanley then moved, that the Houſe ſhould adjourn over for a week; which, after a ſhort altercation, was agreed to, on a diviſion, 191 to 39.

A like meſſage was preſented to the Lords the ſame day by Lord Suffolk; and was ordered to be taken into conſideration on the 16th.

The following is ſaid to be the Royal expenditure from Jan. 6. 1776, to Jan. 5. 1777:

	£.
The Queen	50,000
Duke of Glouceſter	12,000
Duke of Cumberland	12,000
Princeſs Amelia	12,000
The ſervants of the late Queen, Princeſs of Wales, Queen of Denmark, &c.	8,000
Cofferer of the Houſehold	109,600
Treaſurer of the Chamber	60,200
Great Wardrobe	36,400
Maſter of the Robes	8,800
Maſter of the Horſe	26,000
Paymaſter of the Works	76,500
Foreign Miniſters	98,600
Great Officers, Judges fees, ſalaries, &c. [xxi. 284]	130,000
Penſions and Annuities	127,000
Royal Bounties	11,500
Gentlemen Penſioners	6,000
Preſents to Foreign Miniſters	3,000
Secret Service	86,000
His Majeſty Privy Purſe	48,000
Goldſmith	2,500
Law-charges	60,000
	£. 984,100

NEW

NEW BOOKS. [158.]

Sermons. By the late Rev. George Carr, ſenior clergyman of the Engliſh Epiſcopal congregation in Edinburgh. 3 vols ſmall 8vo. 7 s. 6 d. ſewed. Creech, Edinburgh.

EXTRACTS.

On public worſhip. Preached at opening the New Epiſcopal chapel in Edinburgh, on Sunday, Oct. 9. 1774. [xxxvi. 505.]

THE text is Pſ. xcv. 6. *O come, let us worſhip*, &c. The diſcourſe is divided into two heads: 1. Our obligations to worſhip the Lord our maker; 2. The religious effects conſequent on a due obſervance of this duty. — An occaſional prayer is prefixed, viz.

"O thou Supreme, Almighty Being, whoſe goodneſs is everlaſting, whoſe providential care extends to all thy creatures, look down, from the habitation of thy holineſs, upon us thy ſervants, who are here aſſembled to preſent our ſupplications before thee.

We at this time particularly implore thy acceptance of the adorations which ſhall be offered in this Houſe of Prayer, which we now dedicate and appropriate to thy ſervice. Vouchſafe to accept this our offering, and to regard with an eye of mercy the ſupplicants who here approach thy preſence.

Let the influence of thy Holy Spirit accompany the religious inſtructions and exhortations which ſhall here be delivered, that we may both perceive and know what things we ought to do, and alſo may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil the ſame. But if we ſin againſt thee, as there is no man that liveth and ſinneth not, yet if we repent, and make our ſupplications unto thee in this Houſe, and return unto thee with all our heart, and with all our ſoul, then hear thou from heaven, thy dwelling-place, and forgive us our tranſgreſſions wherein we have tranſgreſſed againſt thee. And this we beg for Jeſus Chriſt his ſake; in whoſe holy name and words we further addreſs thee. — *Our Father which art in heaven, &c.*"

The liberal ſpirit of the pious author will appear by an extract from the ſecond head of the diſcourſe, viz.

"I have hitherto conſidered the duty of divine worſhip in general, without pointing out the peculiar excellence of that mode of worſhip, of which your attendance in this place ſpeaks your approbation. But as this may ſeem unneceſſary, permit me rather to obſerve, in what high eſtimation we ought to hold the favour of Providence, in aſſigning our lot in a land, happy in a conſtitution, and a ſyſtem of laws, the moſt favourable in the world to the rights of human nature; where we are permitted, in religious matters, to diſſent from public eſtabliſhment; where the principles of toleration are underſtood, and acknowledged; where the invaluable bleſſings of religious liberty are enjoyed to an extent not known to other nations, nor till of late poſſeſſed by our own. Nature, or rather its Author, never meant to eſtabliſh an uniformity of opinions. He has not given to all men the ſame intellectual diſcernment, nor placed us all in the ſame commodious ſituation for the diſcovery of truth; religious objects, conſequently, muſt be obſerved from different points of view, and appear in different lights and poſitions. A diverſity of ſentiments is evidently the plan of Nature, and is not to be conſidered as an evil, except when we render it ſuch by diſcordant paſſions.

But very different from the genius and characteriſtic virtue of our religion is every degree of diſcord on account of ſuch diverſity. Would we evince the ſuperior excellence of the doctrines and devotional rites of our church? let us attempt it by the beſt of arguments, by appealing to their moral effects, their ſuperior influence on our lives and manners. *Let the tree*, according to our Saviour's expreſſion, *be known by its fruit*. By this we may beſt eſtimate its value. This will be our beſt vindication. By ſuch arguments we may, we ought, earneſtly, too earneſtly we cannot, contend for the honour of our holy profeſſion. Religious altercations have ſeldom been deciſive, or produced any other conviction, than that where opinions differ, affections are apt to be at variance; and that the true ſpirit of religion is often loſt amidſt the contentions about it."

As the ſermons are ſhort, we ſhall give one entire, on a very nice, and a very important ſubject, viz.

On divine grace and human co-operation.

Phil. ii. 12. 13. *Work out your own ſalvation*, &c.

OPinions have been divided in the Chriſtian church, concerning the extent,

influence, and efficacy, of divine grace, and the power and liberty of the human will.—Some have aſſerted, that in the preſent degenerate ſtate of human nature, it is not poſſible for us, by our own exertions, to act any effectual part in the work of our ſalvation; that divine grace does all, and we can do nothing for ourſelves; that the Spirit of God moves the ſprings of action in us by a ſecret, unfelt, but a powerful and irreſiſtible hand; that he acts upon the mind, not indeed like an impetuous torrent, violently and viſibly bearing down our liberty of will, but as a ſmooth and gentle ſtream, which, with an effectual, though imperceptible force, carries us along with it; that all our virtues and good actions derive, conſequently, their whole merit from his agency, and are the produce of his operations.

But, according to this opinion, we are mere machines or inſtruments in the hands of a ſuperior agent; our beſt performances, conſequently, can have no moral value, nor be intitled to approbation or reward. For what reward, what approbation, can we claim for actions which are not ours, but wrought and produced in us by a ſuperior direction?

On the other hand, others, by aſſerting the unreſtricted, uninfluenced freedom of the will, and our entire and abſolute ability of chuſing good or evil, have been thought to derogate from the power and efficacy of divine grace. For certain it is, that nature, unaided by grace, is not of itſelf ſufficient to holineſs. The corruption of our nature is a bias that inclines us to vice; a principle above nature is requiſite to counteract this propenſion, and draw us to virtue.

The ſcripture accordingly informs us, that we are not ſufficient of ourſelves, but that our ſufficiency is of God; that without him we can do nothing; that it is he that worketh in us both to will and to do. This corruption and depravation of human nature is not a diſcovery that we owe to revelation; it was always the general ſenſe of mankind; the beſt and wiſeſt of the Heathens have obſerved, acknowledged, and lamented it; we all but too much feel it in ourſelves, and may obſerve it in others.

But, notwithſtanding it is admitted, that our ſufficiency is of God, and that it is he that worketh in us both to will and to do; yet we are not to be merely paſſive under the divine influences: ſome part muſt belong to ourſelves in the work of our ſalvation. Why elſe are we exhorted not to receive the grace of God in vain? why forbidden to quench or grieve the Holy Spirit? why commanded to work out our ſalvation with fear and trembling? and to what end all the precepts and exhortations of the ſcriptures? There is therefore, doubtleſs, required a joint efficiency and co-operation of the divine aſſiſtance, and our own agency, to the accompliſhment of our ſalvation.

This idea is expreſſed in the words of the text; where the apoſtle does not ſay, Work out your ſalvation yourſelves, for you have no need of divine grace; nor does he ſay, on the other hand, The divine grace does all, and therefore you need do nothing yourſelves; but, aſcribing to each its proper office, he ſays, Work out your own ſalvation, becauſe divine grace gives you power ſo to do.

I ſhall in this diſcourſe conſider the extent of divine grace, and human liberty, and point out the diſtinct province of each; and ſhew in what reſpects our good actions are to be attributed to the Supreme Being, and how far they are to be aſcribed to ourſelves.

In the following reſpects, then, our actions may be aſcribed to God.——Firſt, From God, the original author of every good gift, we derive all our powers; and on his ſuſtaining hand we depend for the preſervation and exerciſe of them. All our intentions, determinations, and actions, though under the immediate direction of our will, yet are exerted under him, without whoſe concurrence we can neither act, nor think, nor move, nor have our being. As God, then, originally imparted, and ſtill continues to ſupport, our powers of acting, our actions may in one ſenſe, or ultimately, be aſcribed to him.

But beſides thoſe powers granted us by Nature, together with our being, God is pleaſed to illuminate our minds by the immediate aids and influences of his Holy Spirit. The nature of theſe influences, and their mode of operation on the underſtanding, we cannot aſcertain with preciſion; but they ſhould ſeem to conſiſt, in invigorating our intellectual powers; or in arranging our ideas in ſuch order, and placing them in ſuch a light, that we may have a clearer diſcernment of religious doctrines or duties than we ſhould otherwiſe acquire; or in recalling to our

conſideration

conſideration important and forgotten truths, and giving them a deeper impreſſion on the mind.

But further, the Deity not only aids our underſtandings, but influences alſo our wills and affections, by preſenting to them the moſt powerful motives, by operating on our hopes and fears, ſetting before us future inflictions and rewards, ſuggeſting pious ſentiments, prompting us to virtuous reſolutions, communicating inward aſſiſtance and ability to all the purpoſes of holineſs and obedience, and diſpoſing our hearts to the reception of divine truths. As God, in the former caſe, illuminates our underſtandings, by opening, as it were, the eye of the ſoul, and giving us a clear proſpect and diſcernment of our duty, and its obligations; ſo here he influences and bends our inclinations to the obſervance of duty, by powerful motives; motives that operate on the mind, not indeed with a compulſive force, but with all the force that can be offered to the liberty of moral agents; all the force that is conſiſtent with the nature of duty; all the force that can attend admonition, exhortation, conviction.

The opinion and belief of a ſupernatural aſſiſtance is ſo reaſonable, ſo conſonant to our ideas of the divine goodneſs, and of human frailty, that philoſophers, even in the Heathen world, were ſenſible how much it was wanted; and have expreſsly aſſerted, that without divine aſſiſtance, no man could make a progreſs either in wiſdom or virtue. What reaſon ſuggeſted to them, revelation has aſcertained to us, which repreſents us as temples and habitations of the Holy Spirit.

It may appear, then, what ſhare may properly be aſcribed to God in the production of our good works; and it is eaſy to diſcover, what remains on our part, and is required from us to do for ourſelves. The Supreme Being does not over-rule our liberty; nor, like a deſpotic ſovereign, chain down our will to his determinations; but, as a friend, addreſſes us, and prevails by the gentle force of rational and moral influence. He firſt gives us ſufficient powers and abilities to act; and then invites us to a right exertion of thoſe powers, by offering the moſt effectual inducements, by preſenting to our view the reaſonableneſs, the amiableneſs, the obligations, the happineſs, of religious obedience. He enables, admoniſhes, and exhorts us, to diſcharge our various duties; we ought to attend to his admonitions, and comply with his influences. He furniſhes the means of action, and motives for acting; in conſequence of theſe, it is our province to deliberate, to determine, and to act.

God does not irreſiſtibly turn the balance of our will, nor abſolutely determine our actions: for then they would be his actions, not ours; he would be the ſole agent, we only the inſtruments he employs. Whatever may be the nature of the divine influences, or their manner of operation on the mind; however our underſtandings may be illuminated, or our affections rectified,—we may be aſſured, that we retain our moral liberty; that our intentions and actions are left, generally, to our own determination; that we have the government of ourſelves; and that our whole behaviour is at our own diſpoſal; which circumſtance alone it is that can render us accountable for it.

Our Saviour, in order to deſcribe the influence and operation of divine grace upon his followers, repreſents it under the ſimilitude of a vine and its branches. *I am the vine*, ſays he, *ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the ſame bringeth forth much fruit.* As there is a natural, vital union between the vine and the branches, ſo is there a ſpiritual union between Chriſt and his true diſciples, on which the communication of his grace and ſpirit depends. The myſtical vine conveys to every branch a vital principle, a conſtant ſupply of ſpiritual nutriment; it belongs to us the branches, in virtue of theſe communications from the root, to contribute our part to the production of fruit.

The ſame idea is illuſtrated in the parable of the ſower; where the ſeed ſown is the word of God, the rain from heaven denotes the divine aſſiſtance; yet ſtill the produce is repreſented to be in proportion to the natural fertility and goodneſs of the ſoil. The Almighty confers his aſſiſtance, and bears a part in our ſalvation; but we are not thence to infer, that his aſſiſtance will do all, without our own efforts.

Our nature is indeed weak and frail, too eaſily ſeduced by the temptations we can reſiſt; too prone to evil, though we can diſcern and chuſe the good; too inattentive to the divine ſuggeſtions, but

not incapable of complying and co-operating with them. Let us not dishonour our Maker, by supposing that he has made us totally corrupt, that he has formed and fitted us only for sin, and left every ingredient of good out of the human composition. Let us not suppose, that we can add to his glory by degrading his works, by degrading man, the chief of his works within our sphere of observation. It is God indeed that worketh in us both to will and do; yet we are required, and consequently have power, to work out our salvation. Our labours cannot avail without his assistance; his assistance will not avail without our labours; on the concurrence of both, our virtue now, and our felicity hereafter, depend.

It may appear, then, in what sense the scripture is to be understood, when it attributes our good works both to God and to ourselves. He illuminates our understanding, and, by a secret influence, suggests, and excites us to, what is right; in consequence of this ability and assistance, we determine and act. He instructs us, and invites our obedience, by the natural light of our own minds, by the express revelation of his will, and by the secret whispers and suggestions of his Holy Spirit. But the success of all these methods will turn upon our complying with, or rejecting them. We may attend, or not, to the admonitions of our own mind; we may observe, or neglect, his revealed instructions; we may yield to, or oppose, the impulses of the Holy Spirit.

God does not with a resistless hand compel us into his service. All his assistances require our own concurrence to render them effectual. His grace will not illuminate our minds, if we industriously bar them against light and truth. If we have ears to hear, and will not hear, the divine instructions are given in vain.

But we ought to consider, that when God invites, and offers to conduct, us to duty and happiness; if we are unwilling to comply, if we refuse his invitation, and reject his assistance, our case is then indeed desperate, and without remedy: for as it is inconsistent with the nature of virtue to suppose, that we can be made virtuous and good by compulsion; so it is inconsistent with the nature and perfections of God to suppose, that without virtue or goodness he will approve or reward us.

If we repay his favour with ingratitude, and continue unprofitable under the means of grace, God, instead of compelling us by an over-ruling direction into the paths of obedience and happiness, may be provoked to resume his slighted gifts, and with-hold the grace which we receive in vain. And nothing more is requisite to our certain undoing, than to be forsaken of him, and his assisting grace to be withdrawn. Were it our unhappy lot to be thus exposed, defenceless, to the assaults of temptation, left to encounter the adversaries of our happiness destitute of divine armour, cut off from all communication with God, all supplies of his grace intercepted, the frailty and corruption of our nature would soon betray, and give us up into the enemy's hands. Unsupported by divine assistance, we should be lost to every good disposition, lost to every virtue. Like branches lopped off, and severed from the vine, we should lose the vital principle that renders us productive of moral fruit; we should be cast forth, and withered, and fitted for destruction.

On the other hand, if we bend our minds to a compliance with the will of our heavenly Father, and are obedient to his direction and guidance, his powerful, though unseen arm, will conduct us from virtue to virtue, and will never be wanting to us, if we are not wanting to ourselves. If we open our hearts to his sacred influences; if our souls gasp unto him as a thirsty land, and drink in the dew of his Spirit, as it silently descends upon us from heaven; — we shall then be neither barren nor unfruitful; the seed of divine grace thus sown upon good ground, upon its natural and proper soil, an honest and good heart, will take root, and be productive of the genuine fruits of the Spirit, the graces and virtues of a good life.

Grace is the greatest, best of Heaven's blessings, and far transcends all others we can enjoy. Temporal good things God promiscuously bestows on the just and the unjust, often on the evil and unthankful, on those who neither solicit nor acknowledge his favours. But his grace he accounts a pearl of greater price than to be thrown to the negligent and undeserving. He gives it only to them that ask it, to them who piously implore, and justly prize the heavenly gift. Would we then obtain of God a blessing, as requisite

quiſite to our growth in goodneſs, to the ſuſtenance of our ſpiritual life, as is our daily bread to that of the body? let us not neglect to approach him with importunate and fervent ſupplications for it.

For the attainment of this bleſſing, this ſpiritual food, our prayers cannot be too fervent, cannot be too importunate. And happy ſure is the lot of Chriſtians, to whom God has promiſed the aſſiſtance of his Holy Spirit, on the eaſy terms of aſking, and gratefully receiving it; happy that we are not left altogether to the power of irregular paſſions, to the protection of our own weakneſs, and to the counſels of our own corruption; happy that we are under the eye and ſuperintendence of ſo powerful, yet ſo kind a guardian, who never forſakes, till he is forſaken by us; never withdraws his aſſiſtance, till we render it ineffectual; never abandons us in temptations, till our own hearts take part with the tempter, and we betray ourſelves; never refuſes his grace, till we receive it in vain.

Let us not, then, be wanting to ourſelves in ſupplicating and complying with the influences of this divine inſtructor; and *foraſmuch as without thee, O God, we are not able to pleaſe thee, mercifully grant, that thy Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts, that in keeping thy commandments we may pleaſe thee, both in will and deed, through Jeſus Chriſt our Lord.*

Sermons by Hugh Blair, D. D. [42.]

THE title and contents of this book have been already inſerted;—we now give a character of it, from the Monthly Review, viz.

"THOUGH there is, perhaps, no ſpecies of compoſition which remains ſo far below its juſt degree of perfection as ſermons; and though, in general, they excite no great ſhare of the public attention;—yet the diſcourſes before us cannot fail of being favourably received by readers of very different characters. The man of taſte and the polite ſcholar, will be pleaſed with them, as elegant compoſitions; and the man of the world will approve the preacher's judicious obſervations upon human life; but, above all, thoſe who read in order to attain practical knowledge,—with a view to be wiſe for time and wiſe for eternity, will find their account in a frequent peruſal of the publication before us.

The ſubjects on which Dr Blair diſcourſes, are not doctrinal points of curious ſpeculation, but ſuch as relate to the conduct of life, and the diſcipline of the heart and paſſions;—and they are placed in ſo happy, ſo ſtriking a point of view, as muſt, undoubtedly, make deep impreſſions upon every reader, who is deſirous of acting in a manner worthy of his rational nature, and his Chriſtian profeſſion. There are two ſermons, indeed, of a more philoſophical caſt than the reſt; one, *On our imperfect knowledge of a future ſtate*; the other, *On the diſorders of the paſſions*; and though they may be read with great advantage in a practical view, will be chiefly acceptable to perſons of a ſpeculative turn. They are excellent diſcourſes, and will do the author great honour.—— In a word, we are of opinion, that Dr Blair's Sermons are, in point of ſtyle, ſentiment, and compoſition, equal to the moſt celebrated performances of this kind in the Engliſh language. A few extracts will enable our readers to form a juſt idea of their merit.

In his ſermon *On the diſorders of the paſſions*, after ſome ſtriking reflections naturally ariſing from theſe words,—*Yet all this availeth me nothing, ſo long as I ſee Mordecai the Jew ſitting at the king's gate*,—the preacher thus proceeds.

"From this train of obſervation, which the text has ſuggeſted, can we avoid reflecting upon the diſorder in which human nature plainly appears at preſent to lie? We have beheld, in Haman, the picture of that miſery which ariſes from evil paſſions; of that unhappineſs which is incident to the higheſt proſperity; of that diſcontent which is common to every ſtate. Whether we conſider him as a bad man, a proſperous man, or ſimply as a man, in every light we behold reaſon too weak for paſſion. This is the ſource of the reigning evil; this is the root of the univerſal diſeaſe. The ſtory of Haman only ſhows us what human nature has, too generally, appeared to be in every age. Hence, when we read the hiſtory of nations, what do we read but the hiſtory of the follies and crimes of men? We may dignify thoſe recorded tranſactions, by calling them the intrigues of ſtateſmen, and the exploits of conquerors; but they are, in truth, no other than the efforts of diſcontent to eſcape from its miſery, and the ſtruggles of contending paſſions among

mong unhappy men. The hiſtory of mankind has ever been a continued tragedy; the world, a great theatre exhibiting the ſame repeated ſcene, of the follies of men ſhooting forth into guilt, and of their paſſions fermenting, by a quick proceſs, into miſery.

But can we believe that the nature of man came forth in this ſtate from the hands of its gracious creator? Did he frame this world, and ſtore it with inhabitants, ſolely that it might be repleniſhed with crimes and misfortunes? — In the moral, as well as in the natural world, we may plainly diſcern the ſigns of ſome violent convulſion, which has ſhattered the original workmanſhip of the Almighty. Amidſt this wreck of human nature, traces ſtill remain which indicate its author. Thoſe high powers of conſcience and reaſon, that capacity for happineſs, that ardour of enterpriſe, that glow of affection, which often break through the gloom of human vanity and guilt, are like the ſcattered columns, the broken arches, and defaced ſculptures of ſome fallen temple, whoſe ancient ſplendour appears amidſt its ruins. So conſpicuous in human nature are thoſe characters, both of a high origin, and of a degraded ſtate, that, by many religious ſects throughout the earth, they have been ſeen and confeſſed. A tradition ſeems to have pervaded almoſt all nations, that the human race had either through ſome offence forfeited, or through ſome misfortune loſt, that ſtation of primæval honour which they once poſſeſſed. But while, from this doctrine, ill underſtood, and involved in many fabulous tales, the nations wandering in Pagan darkneſs could draw no conſequences that were juſt; while, totally ignorant of the nature of the diſeaſe, they ſought in vain for the remedy; the ſame divine revelation which has informed us in what manner our apoſtaſy aroſe, from the abuſe of our rational powers, has inſtructed us alſo how we may be reſtored to virtue, and to happineſs."

[Extracts are given from four more of the ſermons, and the article is concluded thus.]

The above extracts, we apprehend, will amply juſtify the character we have given of Dr Blair's diſcourſes, and afford the attentive and judicious reader a juſt idea of the elegance and ſimplicity of the author's ſtyle; of his unaffected manner; of his taſte in compoſition; of the variety, beauty, and propriety of his ſentiments; and of his happy talent of convincing the judgement, and at the ſame time affecting the heart.

It may be ſatisfactory to ſome of our readers to know, that it is to Dr Blair that the public are indebted for the Critical Diſſertation on the Poems of Oſſian. [xxv. 205.].

[A third edition is now publiſhed.]

Obſervations on the means of exciting a ſpirit of national induſtry; chiefly intended to promote the agriculture, commerce, manufactures, and fiſheries, of Scotland. In a ſeries of letters to a friend. Written in the year 1775. By James Anderſon, author of the Eſſays relating to agriculture and rural affairs. 4to. 18 *s. boards.* Elliot, Edinburgh.

An Extract.

Of the corn-laws with regard to Scotland.

Scotland has hardly been as yet in any reſpect benefited by the Britiſh corn-laws; as theſe laws have never yet been properly adapted to the nature and circumſtances of that part of the iſland.

Wheat is the principal crop in England, for which there is an extenſive market in Europe at large, at all times. But from the natural barrenneſs of Scotland in general, oats has ever been the principal crop of that part of the iſland; and this kind of grain muſt long continue to furniſh food to the lower ranks of people in it. But the great bulk, and very low price, of oats, renders it a far leſs proper article of export than wheat; and as the ſale of *that kind of grain* is confined to a very few places on the continent, there never has been a ſteady demand for it abroad; ſo that when accidental plenty comes, there is no ready vent for it. Merchants in that article would not have employment at all times, and therefore cannot be readily found when moſt needed; and the country experiences nearly the ſame inequalities in the price of grain as if no bounty had ever been granted upon exporting it from Scotland. And indeed the law with regard to this particular is ſo injudiciouſly framed, as to be incapable of producing any beneficial effects at all; as a ſlight review of the corn-laws of Scotland will plainly ſhow.

By the ſtatute 13° George III. cap. 43. it is enacted, That oats or oat-meal may be imported into *any port of Great Britain*, when

when the price is at or above 14 s. per quarter. But by a ſubſequent clauſe of the ſame ſtatute, it is expreſsly ordained, That it ſhall not be lawful to import any oats or oat-meal into Scotland, while the price of middling oats is not at or above 16 s. per Scots boll, which is nearly the ſame as 22 s. per quarter. By this law, therefore, although oats may be imported into England whenever the price is above 14 s. they cannot be imported into Scotland till the price is at leaſt 22 s. per quarter. What was the reaſon for this extraordinary difference, it is difficult to ſay, unleſs it was intended to raiſe the price of grain in Scotland in ſcarce years to ſuch a rate as to create a ſort of famine. And I have already had occaſion to ſhow, that this regulation muſt neceſſarily tend to hurt the intereſt of the farmer and country-gentleman, whom it ſeems to have been intended to ſerve.

By the ſame ſtatute it is declared, That when the price of middling oats is at 14 s. per quarter, or under, it ſhall be lawful to export oats; and that a bounty of 2 s. ſhall be granted for every quarter of oats, and of 2 s. 6 d. for every quarter of oat-meal, then exported, reckoning 276 lb. Troas a quarter of oat-meal; that is to ſay, when middling oats ſell for 10 s. 4 d. per Scots boll, or under, in Scotland, a bounty of about 1 s. 4 d. per boll ſhall be allowed on exporting oats or oat-meal, reckoning eight ſtone Amſterdam a boll, and nothing more. This bounty cannot tend to relieve the farmer, as the price at which it may be claimed is too low, and as the bounty itſelf is too inconſiderable to produce any ſenſible effect; nor has it ever, that I know of, been claimed in any one inſtance.

By theſe abſurd regulations, a proviſion is made to prevent the poſſiblity of moderating the price of grain in Scotland in years of ſcarcity, and no effectual proviſion is made for opening a foreign market, and keeping the price reaſonably high, in years of plenty; which muſt ſubject the inhabitants to all the grievous inconveniencies that ariſe from great and ſudden fluctuations in the price of this neceſſary article of life. Far better would it have been to have allowed Scotland to remain on the ſame footing with England, as to the commerce of oats, than to have added the deſtructive clauſe againſt the importation of oats to that country: for although the bounty is too inconſiderable to give any aſſiſtance to the farmer, the other inhabitants would at leaſt have been able to get bread-corn on ſome occaſions cheaper than at preſent, and the farmer would have been in leſs danger of being ruined by offering immoderate rents, in hopes of obtaining always the high monolopy-price for grain.

I am far, however, from wiſhing to ſee the regulations in England with reſpect to the commerce of oats implicitly adopted in Scotland, as this would at beſt be only exchanging one imperfect regulation for another that is worſe. Oats, it ought always to be remembered, is the principal crop in Scotland. It is far otherwiſe in England; and therefore that kind of corn requires leſs to be attended to by the legiſlature there than here. The nature of different countries too with regard to fertility, ſituation, &c. will often make a particular regulation as to the commerce of grain, extremely prudent for the one, that would be very improper for the other; and therefore the circumſtances of each ought to be peculiarly attended to in forming laws for regulating this kind of commerce.

I have frequently had occaſion to obſerve, that the great uſe of a bounty is to regulate the price of grain, and to keep it as moderate, and as ſteady, as the nature of things will admit of. To do this effectually, there are two principal objects that ought to be chiefly attended to. The firſt of theſe is, to aſcertain as nearly as poſſible the *intrinſic* value of each particular kind of corn in the country where the regulation is intended to be made; and the ſecond is, to aſcertain the price at which the ſame kinds of grain can in general be ſold for in any foreign market to which it may be carried, together with the expence of tranſporting it thither. It ſhould be the firſt of theſe circumſtances that ought to regulate the price at which importation may with propriety be admitted, and a bounty on exportation commence. It is the ſecond that ought to regulate the amount of that bounty.

Corn cannot be reared without a certain expence of labour, nor can it be brought to market unleſs the cultivator receives a price ſufficient to indemnify him for that expence. It is the wages of this labour neceſſary for producing grain that I call its *intrinſic* value.

In a country that poſſeſſes a very fertile ſoil, it is evident, that the ſame quantity of grain may be reared, and brought to market, at a much ſmaller expence

pence than in one that is more barren. The intrinſic value of the corn, therefore, muſt be higher in the laſt country than in the firſt; and, by conſequence, the average price of corn may, with ſafety, be much lower in proportion to other commodities in the fertile than in the barren country. If the legiſlature, by any regulation of commerce or police, ſhould contrive to bring the average price of corn in a barren country lower than this real intrinſic value, the farmer would be obliged to deſert that employment, the grounds would remain uncultivated, and the inhabitants would be obliged to depend on foreign nations alone for their ſubſiſtence. But as it is univerſally acknowledged, that the moſt eſſential riches of any country conſiſt in the produce of the ſoil, any regulation that tended to diminiſh that produce, would be deſtructive; it ought, therefore, to be the ſtudy of the legiſlature, to encourage the cultivation of the fields, ſo as to make the produce, if poſſible, ſuſtain all its inhabitants.

In every country there are various ſoils, which are endued with different degrees of fertility; and hence it muſt happen, that the farmer who cultivates the moſt fertile of theſe, can afford to bring his corn to market at a much lower price than others who cultivate poorer fields. But if the corn that grows on theſe fertile ſpots is not ſufficient fully to ſupply the market alone, the price will naturally be raiſed in that market to ſuch a height, as to indemnify others for the expence of cultivating poorer ſoils. The farmer, however, who cultivates the rich ſpots, will be able to ſell his corn at the ſame rate in the market with thoſe who occupy poorer fields; he will, therefore, receive much more than the *intrinſic* value for the corn he rears. Many perſons will, therefore, be deſirous of obtaining poſſeſſion of theſe fertile fields, and will be content to give a certain premium for an excluſive privilege to cultivate them; which will be greater or ſmaller according to the more or leſs fertility of the ſoil. It is this premium which conſtitutes what we now call *rent*; a medium by means of which the expence of cultivating ſoils of very different degrees of fertility may be reduced to a perfect equality.

In countries, therefore, of moderate fertility, it is prudent to fix the average price of grain at a rate high enough to enable the farmer to cultivate ſo much of thoſe unfertile fields as will be ſufficient to furniſh grain to ſupply the whole inhabitants with food in the ſcarceſt years, that thus they may never be in danger of wanting this eſſential neceſſary of life.

But if they rear ſo much grain as will ſuſtain the whole inhabitants *in years of ſcarcity*, there will be much more than enough for them *in years of plenty*. A market, therefore, muſt be provided for this ſurplus produce, to prevent the unreaſonable degradation of price on theſe occaſions.

If the country in queſtion be more fertile than thoſe around it, the average price in theſe ſurrounding nations will be ſo much higher than the intrinſic value of the grain in the home market, as will require no other encouragement than barely to allow of exportation, perhaps at all times, or whenever it falls ſo low as to be near the intrinſic value of the corn. This is the caſe with Egypt, Sicily, and Poland; in which countries grain can be reared at ſuch a low price, as to admit of being tranſported to other countries at all times without any bounty.

But if the average prices in the ſurrounding nations ſhould be nearly equal with the intrinſic value at home, it would be neceſſary to grant a ſmall bounty on exportation when the prices fell too low, ſo as to pay the whole expence of freight, &c. in tranſporting it to foreign markets. This is in ſome meaſure the caſe with England in reſpect of wheat at preſent.

But if the average price of grain in the neighbouring ſtates ſhould, in years of moderate abundance, be as low, or lower than the intrinſic worth of grain at home, the bounty ought to be ſo high as to repay not only the price of freight, but alſo the difference between the price of grain in that foreign market, and its intrinſic value at home; otherwiſe it cannot be exported without loſs; and by conſequence the trade could not be continued. This ſeems to be the caſe with Scotland; as there is ſome reaſon to ſuſpect, that the average price of oats and oat-meal is as low in moſt of the ſurrounding nations, as it can be afforded for in Scotland; and in ſome countries it is certainly lower.—— It would, therefore, ſeem probable, that the bounty on the exportation of oats from Scot-

land

land would require to be rather higher in proportion to its value, than of the wheat in England.

I am not ſufficiently acquainted with the nature of the countries that might become the purchaſers of our ſuperfluous grain, to be able to ſay preciſely what the amount of that bounty ought to be; nor am I poſſeſſed of enow of facts to be able to fix with abſolute certainty the rate at which that bounty ſhould be granted. I therefore have explained the general principles upon which theſe regulations ought to be founded; and offer the following table, not as being abſolutely right, but as an approximation towards it, which would be at leaſt much more perfect than the preſent ſyſtem of corn-laws; and which, if it ſhould be found defective in any reſpect, might eaſily be altered, ſo as to be productive of the moſt beneficial effects to the country at large; and by conſequence to the gentlemen of landed property and farmers, although it has not the appearance of ſo directly benefiting them as the laſt regulation with regard to the commerce of grain ſeems to have.

A table, ſhewing the rates at which oats or oat-meal might be permitted to be exported from, or imported into Scotland, with the bounty on exportation, or premium on importation, at all different prices.

Oats per boll, Scots meaſure, or oat-meal at eight ſtone per boll, including all oats ſo far manufactured as to be deprived of their huſks, when at the prices ſpecified in the left-hand column below, ſhould receive of bounty on exportation, or of premium on importation, the ſums ſpecified in the right-hand column, viz.

s.		s.	d.
8 or under,	a bounty on export. of	3	0
9	— — —	2	6
10	— — —	2	0
11	— — —	1	6
12	— — —	1	0
13	— — —	0	6
14	Exportation to ceaſe, and importation to be permitted.		
15	a premium on import. of	0	6
16	— — —	1	0
17	— — —	2	0
18 and all above	——	3	0

In the above table, I have adhered to the Scots boll in preference to any other meaſure, not only becauſe it is better known in Scotland than any other, but alſo becauſe of its coincidence with a boll of meal of the legal ſtandard in Scotland; as it is well known, that a Scots boll of good oats will in general yield a boll of meal, or very nearly ſo. This allows for the ſame bounty to apply for a boll of meal or a boll of oats.

I have likewiſe ſuppoſed it would be equally expedient to grant a bounty on the exportation, and premium on the importation, of oat-meal, as of oats in grain; becauſe, as it can be tranſported in that ſtate to a diſtant market about 200 per cent. (including freight and inſurance) cheaper than oats, it would be a great ſaving to the nation to be permitted to tranſport it in this ſtate, whenever circumſtances would admit of it. It would, moreover, tend to promote our own manufactures in ſome degree, by milling our own oats intended for exportation; and it would farther afford a ſort of temptation to the farmer to rear better grain, than he would do were the oats to be exported in ſubſtance.

The only objection of weight that I can perceive againſt this plan for regulating the corn-trade, is the difficulty of aſcertaining the prices on all occaſions, ſo as to fix the rate of the bounty to be granted, without diſputes or ambiguity. And as the Britiſh legiſlature ſeem as yet to have diſcovered no proper method for aſcertaining the prices of grain with a view to the bounty; and as the law, as it ſtands at preſent, with regard to this particular, is liable to very great abuſe; I ſhall endeavour to point out a plan by which theſe abuſes might, in ſome degree, be obviated for the future.

Before the year 1774, the general court of quarter-ſeſſions in England were impowered to judge of the prices of grain, and to declare when the prices were at ſuch a rate, as by law to admit of importation, or a bounty on exportation. And, in Scotland, the ſame truſt was repoſed in the Lords of Council and Seſſion.

But as this mode of aſcertaining the prices in Scotland was found to be attended with many inconveniencies, by 13° G. III. cap. 43. it was enacted, That, for the future, the ſheriff of each maritime county in Scotland, or his ſubſtitute, ſhould enquire into, and determine, the common middling prices of Britiſh corn and oat-meal; and upon receiving the oaths of two or more perſons, aſcertain the ſame by proper acts or determinations, to be ſubſcribed by them reſpectively; which prices ſo aſ-

certained ſhould be accounted the legal prices in their reſpective ſtewartries or ſheriffdoms, for three months; when the prices were to be again aſcertained in the ſame manner.

A very little reflection, however, will be ſufficient to diſcover, that this plan of aſcertaining the prices is liable to ſtill greater abuſes than that which formerly took place; and that the artful corn-merchant, ſo long as this regulation ſubſiſts, may carry on his trade in what manner he pleaſes, even in direct oppoſition to the ſpirit and intention of the law: at leaſt if he is favoured by the ſheriff, or his ſubſtitute.

For if the prices abroad ſhould at any time be very high, although the prices at home ſhould be ſuch as not to allow of a bounty on exportation, or even not to allow of exportation at all, the corn-merchant, by carrying a ſmall quantity of grain to the market, and ſelling it at a low rate, has it in his power to produce two or more witneſſes, to ſwear, that they bought grain at ſuch a price in the public market; in conſequence of which the ſheriff or his ſubſtitute may legally fix the price for three months at that port ſo low as to entitle the exporter to the bounty, although the *real* ſelling-price at home ſhould be conſiderably higher.

The ſame device might alſo be practiſed for getting the ports opened for importing foreign corn, when the real price in the home market was below that at which it may be permitted by law. It is beſides liable to other frauds and abuſes, which it is unneceſſary here to enumerate.

Whether it was with a view to obviate theſe inconveniencies, or to anſwer ſome other ſecret purpoſes, I ſhall not now enquire; but in the very next ſeſſion of parliament, the law, with regard to this particular, was entirely changed; it being ordained, 14° G. III. cap. 64. "That, both in England and Scotland, "the prices of corn, and grain, and "oat-meal, exported from this kingdom, "ſhall be regulated and governed by the "average prices at which ſuch corn, and "grain, and oat-meal, ſhall be reſpectively ſold in the public market, at, or "neareſt to the port or place from whence "ſuch corn, or grain, or oat-meal, ſhall "be intended to be exported, on the laſt "market-day preceding the ſhipping of "ſuch corn or grain, and the reſpective "bounties granted, be paid and allowed "according to ſuch prices."

But if the former law with regard to Scotland was bad, this is ſtill worſe; as it is equally liable to abuſe as the other, and is beſides attended with the peculiar inconvenience of leaving the prices continually unfixed, and thus proving a perpetual ſource of uncertainty, and endleſs diſputes.

For if a merchant ſhall have provided a large quantity of corn for exportation, and finds that the real ſelling price in the market is ſo high as not to admit of the bounty; by expoſing a large quantity of grain unexpectedly at the neareſt market-town, and ſelling it at a low price, he will immediately occaſion the price for that market-day to be reduced ſo low as to entitle him to the bounty, in conſequence of which he may immediately ſhip his grain, and claim the bounty before the next market day. Nor could the bounty in this caſe, according to our preſent law, be refuſed him.

Theſe inconveniencies ſeem to have been ſo much foreſeen in Scotland, that the ſheriffs in the ſeveral maritime counties have never, that I know of, paid any attention to this amendment, as it is called, of the law, but continue to fix the prices once a-quarter, as if they had ſtill authority by law to do ſo.

Such is the ridiculous ſtate of the law in Scotland at preſent with regard to this moſt eſſential article of commerce.

It ſeems to me, that theſe inconveniencies might be beſt obviated, and the prices of grain aſcertained with as great a degree of accuracy as the nature of the thing will admit of, in the following manner.

Let the ſheriff of each county on the ſea-coaſt, or his ſubſtitute, be authoriſed and required to ſummon a jury of ſix reſpectable inhabitants, conſiſting of three country-gentlemen, or farmers, or other dealers in grain; and three bakers or brewers, or reſpectable houſeholders, in town: who ſhould meet with him on the firſt Monday of each of the months of January, March, May, July, September, and November, each year.—Let this jury, the ſheriff, or his ſubſtitute, always being preſes, be impowered to examine witneſſes upon oath as to the real price of grain, and make uſe of ſuch other aids as they ſhall find neceſſary; and, after due deliberation had, fix and aſcertain the real price of grain in that

place

place at the time, by a proper act or determination ſubſcribed by them reſpectively; which price, being properly notified to the collector of the cuſtoms in that diſtrict, and duly publiſhed to all concerned, ſhall be accounted the legal price in that diſtrict for two months; at which time they ſhould, in the ſame manner, be anew aſcertained by another jury.

It is nearly in this manner that the *fiars* are annually aſcertained in the ſeveral counties of Scotland at preſent; and it has been found by experience, that it is as little liable to abuſe, as any method that can be deviſed. Whether it would be beſt for the ſheriff to ſummon all the members for the ſix juries that ſhould meet for this purpoſe in a year, at the beginning of that year, appointing at that time the particular month that each juror reſpectively was to attend; — or whether it would be beſt to nominate and ſummon the new jury immediately after the laſt jury had made their deciſion, — is perhaps of little conſequence: but it would be very proper that they ſhould be ſummoned at leaſt forty or fifty days before the time of meeting, that each of them might have time to attend to the market-prices of grain, and make ſuch enquiries with regard to it, as might enable him to give a proper deciſion.

By purſuing ſuch a plan ſteadily for ſome years, it is not to be doubted, but that Scotland might have the price of grain kept much more ſteady than it ever has been, and alſo lower upon an average of years; which would encourage agriculture and manufactures more effectually than any other contrivance that has ever yet been, or perhaps could be adopted.

I have hitherto ſpoken only of the encouragement that may be given to agriculture, and the beneficial conſequences that may reſult to the community, by encouraging the exportation of grain in ſubſtance; but as exportation of grain can only take place near the ſea-coaſt, and as the tranſporting it in that ſtate is always attended with conſiderable expence and riſk, it would on many occaſions be much more beneficial to a country to promote the exportation of grain after it is manufactured, than in its rude ſtate.

The nature of the manufactures that would require to be encouraged with this view, muſt vary according to the nature of the country. In a nation that poſſeſſed a very fertile ſoil, and enjoyed a ſerene climate, wheat may be manufactured into ſtarch. In ſome caſes ale, or malt-liquors of other denominations, may be exported as an article of commerce; and on ſome occaſions it may be more convenient to export it in the ſtate of diſtilled ſpirits.

This laſt is perhaps the only manufacture of corn that could be carried on with profit in Scotland; and, under proper regulations, might, in all probability, be attended with effects highly beneficial. It is not perhaps beneficial to the country itſelf to reduce the price of corn-ſpirits too low in Britain, and therefore it may be prudent to continue the revenue-laws at preſent in force with regard to diſtillers: but no harm could reſult to us from reducing the price, as to other nations, as low as poſſible. If therefore a drawback equal to the whole amount of the exciſe-duty were allowed upon the exportation of home-made ſpirits, when grain was ſelling in the home market at the low prices at which the bounty is juſt now allowed, our grain, inſtead of being exported in ſubſtance, might find its way into foreign countries at a much leſs expence in the ſtate of ſpirits; and if the drawback were diſcontinued when the price of malt roſe to the ſame rate at which the bounty is diſcontinued, it would perhaps be attended with ſtill more beneficial effects to the nation, and be leſs heavy upon the revenue, than the bounty on malt at preſent.

Something of this kind was attempted during the adminiſtration of Mr Pitt towards the end of the laſt war, but with that deſtructive unſteadineſs of counſels which ſo eminently diſtinguiſhed the adminiſtration of this popular leader, in every thing that regarded the internal proſperity of the ſtate. It was hardly well enacted before it was again repealed; and the idea has never, that I know of, been adopted by any of his ſucceſſors*.

* In 1757 Mr Pitt paſſed a law prohibiting diſtillation entirely; in a few years after, diſtillation was allowed of, and great favours were granted to thoſe who ſhould diſtil for exportation, provided the ſtills were made of an enormous ſize; when this law had been in force one year, and many perſons had procured legal ſtills at a vaſt expence, it was repealed: and ſeveral other laws ſucceeded, varying from one another, without any apparent cauſe.

LONDON.

Religion, Metaphyfics, Morality, &c.

Seventeen fermons on fome of the moft important points on natural and revealed religion, refpecting the happinefs both of the prefent, and of a future life. Together with an appendix, containing a brief and difpaffionate view of the feveral difficulties refpectively attending the Orthodox, Arian, and Socinian fyftems in regard to the holy Trinity. By Jofiah Tucker, D. D. Dean of Glocefter. 5s. *Rivington.*——The Dean of Glocefter hath lately figured away in a double capacity, as a politician and as a divine. His early writings were chiefly of a commercial nature; but he has paid a confiderable degree of attention to theology. — The firft fix of thefe fermons were publifhed in 1772. —In the application of the laft fermon, which was preached on the 30th of January, from 1 Pet. ii. 17. to the prefent times, Dr Tucker aflerts, that the fame principles and maxims are now returning, which fpread fo much mifery over thefe kingdoms once before; that the fame republican fchemes are again in agitation; that the fame plans are now forming anew; that the fame engines of deftruction are again at work to pull down and demolifh our goodly fabrics both in church and ftate; in fhort, that there is a fettled plan, and a premeditated defign of overturning the conftitution. This, he thinks, is the true mafter-key, which unlocks and lays open the latent defigns of thofe who oppofe the meafures of adminiftration. — Dr Tucker's ftyle is perfpicuous and eafy, without being mean; and, on that account, very proper for the pulpit. M.

An inquiry into the nature and defign of Chrift's temptation in the wilderneſs. By Hugh Farmer. Edit 3. [xxvii. 150] 3s. 6d. *Buckland* —— Contains large additions, more efpecially in fect 3. in which the author confirms his explication of *Chrift's being brought into the wilderneſs by* or *in the fpirit*, by new arguments. M.

Twelve fermons. By the Rev. J. Smith, M. A. 6s. *Harrifon* —— Thefe difcourfes are all fhort; but whatever they contain, is faid to the purpofe, in an eafy ſtyle, and plain but not mean language. There is here no pompous difplay of learning, but there are many indications of an heart that wifhes well to religion, and endeavours to promote its beſt intereſts. M.

The fublime and beautiful of fcripture: being eſſays on ſelect paſſages of ſacred compoſition. By Courtney Melmoth. 2 vols. 5s. ſewed. *Murray* ——Mr Melmoth ſeems to have read the ſcriptures with great ſenſibility. He has pointed out many beautiful paſſages, many ſublime thoughts, many touches of delicacy and nature, which are overlooked by almoſt every reader. C.

Biographical ſermons; or, A ſeries of diſcourſes on the principal characters in ſcripture. By William Enfield, LL. D 3s. ſewed. *Johnſon.* —— Dr Enfield has ſelected ſuch incidents only as appeared to him beſt adapted to ſuggeſt important leſſons of morality. This volume contains twelve diſcourſes, on the characters of Abraham, Jacob, Joſeph, Moſes, Job, David, Daniel, St Peter, St Paul, and Jeſus Chriſt. The hiſtory of theſe eminent men afford many uſeful inſtructions. For example: The circumſtance of Jacob's giving his ſon Joſeph, as a token of his fondneſs, a coat of many colours, exemplifies the pernicious conſequences of parental partiality; Joſeph's promotion in Potiphar's houſe affords encouragement to ſervants to be faithful in their ſtations; his conduct in the adventure of Potiphar's wife exhibits an amiable pattern of ſtrict honour and uncorrupted virtue; his impriſonment teaches us, that events which have the moſt unfavourable aſpect, may be productive of the moſt important advantages; his behaviour towards his brethren, ſhews the amiableneſs of a generous and forgiving temper; his publicly acknowledging his family in Pharoah's court, is a uſeful leſſon to thoſe who deſpiſe their poor relations. Our ingenious author expatiates on theſe and the like topics in a manner that affords us at the ſame time inſtruction and entertainment. C.

Chriſtian memoirs; or, A review of the preſent ſtate of religion in England; in the form of a new pilgrimage to the heavenly Jeruſalem. By W. Shrubſole. 5s. *Matthews.* —— A profeſſed imitation of Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progreſs. — Probus, Reſolute, and Friendly, ſet out on a pilgrimage to the heavenly Jeruſalem. They paſs the ſlough of Deſpond, Mount Sinai, the city of Eſtabliſhment, Deiſt-hall, the caſtle of Scepticiſm, the city of Vanity, the city of Formality, the town of Illumination, Free-will foreſt, the arbours of Worldly Eaſe, the river of Death, and many other places; where they meet with a great variety of adventures; from which the author takes occaſion to mention many perſons of note; ſuch as, Mr Lindſey Woolley [Mr Lindſey], Captain Harvey [Mr Harvey], Lady Liberal [Lady Huntingdon], George Fervidus [Whitefield], &c. Upon their arrival at the celeſtial world, they are introduced to the throne of Immanuel. — Part the moſt diſtinguiſhed honours are paid to Fervidus: "The chariot of Immanuel moved onwards, and the children of Fervidus followed, giving an amazing loud ſhout of joy; and the whole hoſt united in the high applauſe. Thus they entered the pearly gates of the New Jeruſalem, and proceeded on to the eternal throne, which was ſurrounded by a moſt brilliant rainbow. Immanuel aſcended the throne; Fervidus drew near, and pro-

ſtrated

ſtrated himſelf before the throne, with all the expreſſions of adoring love. He was commanded to riſe, and Prince Paraclete led him, all aſtoniſhment, quite up to Immanuel, and placed him at his left hand on the throne." By this daring repreſentation, the intelligent reader will at once diſcover the religious perſuaſion and the literary character of the author. C.

A letter to Adam Smith, LL. D. [5.] on the life, death, and philoſophy of his friend David Hume, Eſq; 1s. *Rivington.* —— A ſhort but comprehenſive ſummary of the doctrines which compoſe Mr Hume's philoſophical ſyſtem, is given by Dr Beattie in his Eſſay on Truth (p. 160. & ſeqq.) with proper references to thoſe parts of the philoſopher's works where ſuch doctrines are to be found. It is drawn up with an accuracy, and fidelity, which have never been queſtioned. Even Mr Hume himſelf, who would not, for many reaſons, have ſuffered any impoſition on the public in this matter, did not, neither do any of his friends, deny that it contains his ſenſe, and that it is a very faithful abridgement of the original. — The belief of a God, and of a future ſtate of rewards and puniſhments, is, at times, apt to create, eſpecially in weak minds, ſome little reſtraint upon their actions, ſome ſmall interruption to their pleaſures, or ſome ſlight diſturbance to their repoſe. It will be a comfort to them to find, "that theſe things have no exiſtence; that what a man calls his ſoul, eſpecially if it ſhould happen to belong to a philoſopher, is not, he is ſure, (and it is the only thing of which he can be ſure), the ſame this moment, that it was the laſt; nor conſequently puniſhable at one time, for crimes committed at another; that it is not one, but many things, and that it is nothing at all; that every human action is neceſſary, and could not have been different from what it is; that adultery muſt be practiſed, if men would obtain all the advantages of life; and that it is equally immoral to want honeſty, to want underſtanding, and to want a leg."—Theſe are a few of the ſublime diſcoveries brought to light by this great philoſopher; equally to his own honour, and to the advantage of ſociety. — The letter to Dr Smith abounds with ſtrokes of humour, and with the moſt happy alluſions to the peculiar tenets and circumſtances of the philoſopher, or to the conduct of his encomiaſt. C.

A dialogue on friendſhip and ſociety. By the tranſlator of the life of Petrarch. 2s. 6d. *Becket.* —— If we do not find reaſon to allow the author of this dialogue [Mrs Dobſon] the merit of ſuggeſting original ideas on the worn-out ſubject of friendſhip, we muſt think her intitled to ſome ſhare of praiſe, for having thrown together (in a manner indeed rather miſcellaneous than methodical) many ſenſible and ſprightly reflections, interſperſed with pertinent hiſtorical anecdotes and quotations. M.

A father's inſtructions to his children: conſiſting of tales, fables, and reflections. Part 2. [xxxvii. 618.]. 2s. 6d. ſewed. *Johnſon.* ——Written upon the ſame plan, and not inferior to the former. C.

Hiſtory, Politics, &c.

Miſcellaneous works of the late Philip Dormer Stanhope, Earl of Cheſterfield, conſiſting of letters to his friends, never before printed, and various other articles. To which are prefixed, Memoirs of his life, tending to illuſtrate the civil, literary, and political hiſtory of his time. [xxxvi. 200. 366.] By M. Maty, M. D. 2 vols. 4to. 2l. 2s. boards. *Dilly.* —— The Memoirs are divided into ſix ſections. The five firſt were completed, and a rough draught of part of the laſt left, by Dr Maty. The reſt has been ſupplied by Mr Juſtamond, the preſent editor. The 1ſt ſection extends to the death of Q. Anne, or Lord Cheſterfield's twentieth year. The 2d ends with the death of Geo. I. in 1727. The 3d gives an account of his Lordſhip's firſt embaſſy in Holland, and his return to England, to the time of his diſmiſſion in 1733. The period of his oppoſition during the twelve following years is the ſubject of the 4th. The 5th includes his Lordſhip's ſecond embaſſy to Holland, his adminiſtration in Ireland, and his ſhare in public affairs as ſecretary of ſtate till 1748, when he reſigned; and the laſt repreſents him in his retreat, enjoying the fruits of his experience and labours. G.

Characters of eminent perſonages of his own time. Written by the late Earl of Cheſterfield; and never before publiſhed. 1s. *Flexney.* —— The anonymous prefacer of theſe poſthumous pieces, *aſſerts* them to be Lord Cheſterfield's; and what he aſſerts is probably true; although he hazards nothing in ſupport of his veracity; we ſay *probably*, becauſe they wear ſo ſtriking a reſemblance of his Lordſhip's manner, that his own picture ſeems to be juſtly reflected from the portraits here drawn of other people. M. — The characters are thoſe of George I. Q. Caroline, Sir Robert Walpole, Mr Pulteney, Lord Hardwicke, and Mr Pitt.

Obſervations on popular antiquities: including the whole of Mr Bourne's *Antiquitates vulgares*, with *addenda* to every chapter of that work; as alſo, an appendix. By John Brand, A. B. 5s. ſewed. *Johnſon.* —— Though not an elegant, yet a uſeful compilation, as it contains almoſt every thing that could be collected on the ſubject. C.

Reaſons for the late increaſe of the poor-rates; or, A comparative view of the price

of

of labour and proviſions. Humbly addreſſed to the conſideration of the legiſlature. 1 s. 6 d. *Dodſley.* —— "Within the ſpace of forty years, [ſays this author], land is advanced in yearly value, more than one half, or about ſixty per cent. moſt rents having been raiſed in that proportion. The price of proviſions has mounted to the ſame level. Manufacturers have felt the change; and, where it was practicable, followed the alteration; where it was not practicable, their buſineſs has in conſequence, declined. But the moſt uſeful of labourers, namely, the man employed in the branch of huſbandry, has not, in this convulſed ſtate of things, derived an equal profit, to put him upon the ſame footing with his employer, which his anceſtors were upon with their employers." The writer, according to rates and prices recorded in Fleetwood's *Chronicon Pretioſum*, hints, that labourers ought in juſtice to be paid 1 s. 6 d. for a day's work, when wheat ſells for 4 s. 6 d. a-buſhel, or to the value of the third part of a buſhel, be the price what it may: adding, that labourers appear from Fleetwood to have been in a much better ſituation two or three hundred years ago, than they are at preſent. M.

America.

Letters from the Marquis de Montcalm, Governor General of Canada, to Meſſ. de Berryer & de la Molé, in the years 1757, 1758, 1759. With an Engliſh tranſlation, 1 s. *Almon.* —— From theſe letters, which appear to us to be genuine, although the editor is ſilent with reſpect to that point, we find, that M. de Montcalm had, for ſeveral years preceding the conqueſt of Canada by the Engliſh, carried on a ſecret correſpondence with ſome inhabitants of the neighbouring Britiſh colonies. By this means he was inſtructed how to eſtimate the ſtate of thoſe provinces, and to form, as it were, a political barometer, by which he could mark the gradual riſe, or fall, of our intereſt in that part of the world. By a ſtrict attention to the motions of this barometer, the Marquis ſeems to have enabled himſelf to predict, with a degree of probability nearly approaching to certainty, the future viciſſitudes of our influence and power in North America; and he has, accordingly, foretold ſome of thoſe great changes which have taken place ſince the death of the penetrating obſerver. The following paſſage will evince the ſagacity of this celebrated Frenchman; who was, perhaps, equally qualified to ſhine in the cabinet or the field — "As to the Engliſh colonies, there is one eſſential point to be conſidered: They have never yet been taxed, but have always preſerved that right to themſelves; — an egregious blunder in the politics of England. They ſhould have been taxed on their firſt ſettlement, though in ever ſo trifling a degree; they ſhould have taxed them a little, and annually remitted them, by way of favour, the money they raiſed: thus the right of taxation would have been eſtabliſhed and maintained. Were they now to attempt it, I have certain aſſurances, that the Engliſh colonies would take fire, and the flame would ſpread every where; which, if properly fed, would embarraſs England to extinguiſh it." M.

The letters of Valens, which originally appeared in the London Evening Poſt; with corrections, explanatory notes, and a preface by the author. 2 s. 6 d. *Almon.* —— Well-written, ſpirited, antiminiſterial letters. M.

A ſpeech to the people of England. 1 s. *Nourſe.* —— An oration in praiſe of every thing that is condemned by Valens. The author is not deſtitute of the abilities requiſite for declamatory compoſition. M.

Peace the beſt policy; or, Reflections on the appearance of a foreign war, the preſent ſtate of affairs at home, and the commiſſion for granting pardons in America. By Matt. Robinſon. M. [author of *Conſiderations on the meaſures*, &c. xxxvi. 541. and of *A further examination*, &c. xxxviii. 145.]. 1 s. *Almon* —— Pathetically laments the unhappy defection of the colonies, and ſtrongly urges the neceſſity of a reconciliation, by repealing the late obnoxious acts of parliament, reſtoring the colony-charters, and putting matters on their former footing. M.

The double deluſion; or, Faction the cauſe of all the confuſion. In a ſerious review of our American embroilment. 6 d. *E. Johnſon.* —— "A joco-ſerious review of our American embroilment;" the author's own words. C.

Remarks on the evidence delivered on the petition preſented by the Weſt-India planters and merchants, to the Houſe of Commons, on the 16th of March 1775. As it was introduced at the bar, and ſummed up by Mr Glover [xxxviii. 602.]; ſo far as the ſame reſpects Barbadoes and the Leeward iſlands. By a Weſt-India planter. 1 s. *Dew.* —— The deſign of this publication is explained in the following extract from the preface: "Mr Glover's production came to the hands of the writer of this letter, whilſt he reſided in the Weſt Indies: from thence he tranſmitted to a friend his ſentiments on the matter which it contains. Being now returned to England, he has been induced to give them to the public, in hopes that it may convince them, that the Britiſh Weſt-India iſlands, which are eſtimated at the value of ſixty millions, are in no danger of being loſt to this country, whatever may be the event of the American rebellion. Had the danger been as great as it was repreſented, however fit the information thereof might have

have been for the miniſter's private ear, the public declaration, much *leſs* the induſtrious propagation of it, muſt have been to the higheſt degree impolitic, and productive of the moſt pernicious conſequences." The pamphlet is argumentative, and keeps cloſe to facts, avowed from perſonal knowledge and good information. M.

Natural Hiſtory, Medicine, Mathematics, &c.

Travels through the Bannat of Temeſwar, Tranſylvania, and Hungary, in the year 1770. Deſcribed in a ſeries of letters to Prof. Ferber, on the mines and mountains of theſe different countries, by Baron Inigo Born. To which is added, John James Ferber's mineralogical hiſtory of Bohemia. Tranſlated from the German, by R. E. Raſpe. 5s. boards. *Kearſley*——Mr Ferber publiſhed Baron Born's letters on Hungary, &c. in the ſame manner as that gentleman had done with his Italian Letters [40]; and thus by the endeavours of theſe two ingenious friends the world has been favoured with many valuable acquiſitions to ſcience. Baron Born, counſellor of the royal mines in Bohemia, ſeems to have been inſpired exactly with the ſame ſpirit which animates Mr Ferber; and theſe great mineralogiſts, by communicating their ideas to each other, muſt of courſe ſpeak with equal diſcernment and perſpicuity in their ſcience. There is this difference to be obſerved, that Mr Ferber wrote in a country where every ſubject, except that of natural hiſtory, was exhauſted by former travellers; he therefore was obliged to confine himſelf entirely to mineralogy, and to write a work which illiterate and ſuperficial readers will throw aſide as tedious and unentertaining. On the contrary, Tranſylvania and Hungary are little known to the enlightened Weſtern world, and Baron Born has ſometimes interſperſed the abſtruſe ſcientifical parts of his book with accounts of the inhabitants, their manners, dreſſes, and dwellings; a method which certainly deſerves great commendation, as it is founded on that excellent Horatian rule, *Omne tulit punctum, qui miſcuit utile dulci.*—The work is interſperſed with ſuch choice obſervations, and intereſting mineralogical diſcoveries, as will doubtleſs form a good and laſting baſis for a future noble ſuperſtructure. Our age takes giant-ſtrides towards the improvement of ſcience in general; but chymiſtry and mineralogy ſeem to be peculiarly favoured by the efforts of Meſſ. Sage, Scheele, Bergman, Gahn, Ferber, Arduino, Raſpe, and Born. —The Mineralogical Hiſtory of Bohemia, written by Mr Ferber, which is annexed to theſe Letters, appears to be the moſt circumſtantial and elaborate performance, in a mineralogical reſpect, that ever appeared in print. The obſervations on the nature, dipping, and direction of the veins, on the different ſpecies of metallic rocks, and on the croſſing veins, are of ſurpriſing utility to miners in general, and fit for the peruſal of gentlemen who have mines on their eſtates, but do not know on what grounds to build their hopes of ſucceſs. The map or plan of the mountains, their veins and croſs veins, round Joachimſthal in Bohemia, would be a ſtriking evidence of Mr Ferber's merit as a mineralogiſt, if we had need of any ſuch proofs after reading his Italian Travels. C.

Experiments and obſervations; in three parts. 1. On the diſſolvent power of water impregnated with fixible air, compared with ſimple water, relative to medicinal ſubſtances. 2. On the diſſolvent power of water impregnated with fixible air, on the urinary calculus. 3 On the antiſeptic power of water impregnated with fixible air, and a compariſon of ſeveral antiſeptic ſubſtances with one another relative to this quality. By William Falconer, M. D. F. R. S. 2s. *Goldſmith.*—— The author candidly acknowledges the defects and imperfections of ſome of his experiments: but would not this candour have been more laudably exerted in ſuppreſſing materials as yet unfit for the public eye? M.

Experiments and obſervations on different kinds of air. Vol. 3. [xxxviii. 391.]. By Joſeph Prieſtley, LL. D. 6s. boards. *Johnſon.*—— Since the dawn of experimental philoſophy, there is no period in which natural knowledge has been ſo ſucceſsfully cultivated as within theſe few years; nor, perhaps, any perſon that has either made greater or more rapid progreſs in ſcientific diſcoveries than this author. C.

Obſervations on the London and Edinburgh Diſpenſatories; with an account of the various ſubjects of the *Materia Medica*, not contained in either of theſe works. By the late John Rutty, M. D. author of a Synopſis of mineral waters, and other works. 3s. 6d. *Dilly.*——While every rational practitioner of medicine, who is ſincerely concerned for the advancement of his art, and the good of mankind, has rejoiced at the approaches toward reformation, which the colleges of London and Edinburgh have manifeſted in their reſpective Diſpenſatories, by the rejecting many of the trifling articles which had obtained, and long kept a place there; the author of theſe Obſervations ſeems feelingly to lament the raſhneſs of theſe expurgators, and pretended reformers; and ſtrongly pleads, on various, and frequently very light pretences, for the readmiſſion of many of the proſcribed ſubjects of the *Materia Medica*, as well as for the admiſſion of various new articles which had never yet been honoured with a place in either of theſe Medical Codes. M.

Materia

Materia Medica antiqua et nova, repurgata et illuſtrata; ſive, De medicamentorum ſimplicium officinalium facultatibus tractatus. Auctore Johanne Rutty, M. D. opus 40. annorum. 1l. 1s. *E. & C. Dilly.* 1775.—— It is expected from the author of a *Materia Medica*, that he ſhould admit into his collection every ſubject that has any, even the moſt dubious, pretenſions to medical efficacy. The author arranges the articles in alphabetical order; and, like all his predeceſſors in this walk, is rather too copious in diſplaying the legendary virtues of many of his ſimples. The work, however, may occaſionally be conſulted with advantage as a pharmacal common-place book; compiled from ancient and modern writers, and augmented with additional obſervations, on ſeveral of the articles, peculiar to the author. M.

The diſeaſes of children, and their remedies. By the late Nicholas Roſon Von Roſenſtein, firſt phyſician to his Swediſh Majeſty, &c. Tranſlated into Engliſh by Andrew Sparrman, M. D. 6s. *Cadell.*—— Evidently the reſult of a long and extenſive practice, and of much reading and perſonal obſervation, joined to a correſpondence with ſeveral members of the faculty in different parts of Europe. The author treats his ſubject in a methodical, familiar, and perſpicuous manner; and the tranſlator, as far as we are enabled to judge, ſeems to have done juſtice to the ſenſe of the original. M.

A letter to the maſter, wardens, and court of aſſiſtants, of the corporation of ſurgeons, &c. &c. By a member of the corporation. 1s. *Lowndes.*—— Calls upon the perſons addreſſed in the title to vindicate their chartered rights, and put a ſtop to the incurſions of 'unexamined aliens,' who 'run away with the greateſt part of the buſineſs,'—and 'keep their carriages,' without paying their fine, and paſſing their examination, &c. M.

An appendix to the ſecond edition [juſt publiſhed] of Mr White's treatiſe on the management of pregnant and lying-in women. [xxxv. 595.] 1s. *Dilly.*—— This piece, which the author has, very properly, printed ſeparately, for the convenience of thoſe poſſeſſed of his firſt edition, contains a recapitulation of the principal points inſiſted on in the treatiſe at large, with ſome additional caſes. In the firſt part, we find a train of ingenious, and, in our opinion, well-ſupported arguments, more ſtrongly to enforce the idea that the puerperal fever is occaſioned by *abſorption* of acrid or putrid matter from the accumulated inteſtinal faeces, or the ſtagnant lochia. As an obvious deduction from this theory, the author ſtill more earneſtly inculcates the neceſſity of early ſitting up after delivery; the ſafety and utility of which he confirms by ſome remarkable inſtances. Among the additional caſes, there is one peculiarly deſerving of the attention of the faculty. It is a relation of the cure of that moſt alarming and fatal accident, an inverſion of the uterus. The method by which it was accompliſhed, after other attempts had failed, and the patient was reduced to the laſt extremity, is thus deſcribed by Mr White: "I graſped the body of it (the uterus) in my hand, and held it there for ſome time, in order to leſſen its bulk by compreſſion. As I very ſoon perceived that it began to diminiſh, I perſevered; and ſoon after, made another attempt to reduce it, by thruſting at its fundus. It began to give way. I continued the force till I had perfectly returned it, and had inſinuated my hand into its body. I now withdrew my hand a little, and endeavoured to cloſe the *os uteri* by aſſiſting it in its contraction with my fingers. It was no ſooner reduced than the pulſe in her wriſt began to beat. She recovered as faſt as we could wiſh, and without a ſingle alarming circumſtance." M.

Medical inſtructions towards the prevention, and cure, of chronic or ſlow diſeaſes peculiar to women. By John Leake, M. D. 6s. boards. *Baldwin.*——A few years ago, Dr Leake publiſhed *Practical Obſervations on the Child-bed Fever*, in which he alſo conſidered ſuch other acute diſeaſes as are moſt fatal to women during the ſtate of pregnancy [xxxv. 595.]; and he comprehends, in the preſent treatiſe, the remaining diſeaſes of the ſex. It ought to be remarked, as an inſtance of his candour, that he acknowledges the great merit of Dr Manning's treatiſe on female diſeaſes: and indeed the opinion which he expreſſes in favour of that work is ſuch, that he ſeems to have entered on the ſubject of the chronic diſeaſes of women, merely becauſe the above-mentioned performance was calculated for the medical profeſſion, rather than the peruſal of the female reader. — In treating of nervous diſorders, Dr Leake mentions the power of muſic in curing thoſe who have been bitten by the tarantula [v. 362.]. But he ought to have placed this ſuppoſed fact among the vulgar errors; ſince it has been repeatedly exploded by modern inquirers of unexceptionable authority. C.

An account and deſcription of an improved ſteam-engine, which will, with the ſame quantity of fuel, and in an equal ſpace of time, raiſe above double the quantity of water than any lever engine of the ſame dimenſions. Illuſtrated with copper-plates. By N. D. Falck. M. D. 2s. *Law.*—— We can ſcarce avoid claſſing our author among thoſe adventurers, who are daily ſeen deciding on the moſt difficult queſtions, and attempting the moſt arduous enterpriſes, merely by the force of their own ſublime genius; without having paſſed through the previous ſtudy

ſtudy, and patient experimental inveſtigation, which diſcriminate the philoſopher from the viſionary, and the well-founded and firm aſſertions of ſcience going hand in hand with experiment, from the groundleſs, and yet ſtill more confident deciſions of fancy and inexperience. M.

Fine Arts, Belles Lettres, &c.

Six quartettos for two violins, a tenor, and a violencello. By J. G. C. Schetley. Op VI. To which are prefixed, ſome thoughts on the performance of concert-muſic, by the publiſher. 10 s. 6 d. *Bremner.* —— Mr Bremner has done himſelf honour by his judicious preface, and we recommend the whole of the publication to our muſical readers. M.

A letter from M. Voltaire to the French academy, containing an appeal to that ſociety on the merits of Shakeſpeare. 1 s 6 d. *Bew.* —— M. de Voltaire appears to be under ſome apprehenſion leſt the fame of the French poets ſhould be eclipſed by the celebrated Engliſh dramatiſt; for which reaſon he induſtriouſly expoſes the blemiſhes of our immortal bard; but with ſuch an air of triumph as favours too much of prejudice, if not of malignity. C. —— On this occaſion, the wiſeſt method for an advocate of Shakeſpeare to purſue, would be, to take up the argument where Voltaire has dropt it; not to defend Shakeſpeare, but to ſhew, even allowing the whole charge againſt him, that Corneille and Racine, (to whom we may add Voltaire), have as many faults, and much fewer beauties. A female writer of this country has already opened that plan, with merited ſucceſs. M.

Entertainment.

Memoirs of the Marchioneſs de Louvoi. In letters. By a lady. 3 vols. 7 s. 6 d. ſewed. *Robſon.* —— Well adapted to the purpoſe both of entertainment and inſtruction. C.

Charles and Charlotte. 2 vols. 5 s. ſewed. *Lane.* —— A collection of letters between different perſons, but containing chiefly the correſpondence of Charles and Charlotte, after the latter had, from motives of penitence, renounced an illicit connection in which they had lived ſome time. The letters on this ſubject, particularly, are full of tenderneſs and ſentiment; diſplaying in thoſe of Charles all the ardour and ſolicitude of the lover, and on the ſide of Charlotte an inflexible adherence to the virtuous reſolution which ſhe had formed. C.

The hiſtory of the Curate of Craman. By an unbeneficed clergyman. 2 vols. 5 s. ſewed. *Johnſon* —— The ſcene where we firſt become acquainted with the hero of this piece is at a ſchool in Yorkſhire, whence we are conducted to the univerſity of Aberdeen, and entertained on our route with deſcriptions of various places and characters; which, though, in our opinion, not entirely juſt, are generally repreſented in a lively manner. The narrative is interſperſed with a variety of epiſodical digreſſions, and ſome little effuſions in poetry. C.

Poetry.

Box-hill, a deſcriptive poem. By Edward Beavan. 2 s. *Wilkie.* —— Sets criticiſm at defiance. M.

Heath-hill, a deſcriptive poem. By W. Hurn. 2 s. 6 d. *Robinſon* —— The author has genius, but wants judgement. M.

Theodoſius to Conſtantia, [See Spectator, N° 164]; a poetical epiſtle. 1 s. *Walter.* —— Unequal, and contains ſeveral unpoliſhed and inelegant lines. M.

Old ballads, hiſtorical and narrative, with ſome of modern date; now firſt collected, and reprinted from rare copies, with notes. 2 vols. 8 s. ſewed. *Evans, Strand.* —— The ſucceſs of Dr Percy's collection of old ballads has inſtigated Mr Evans to furniſh that ſupplement to it which is at preſent under our conſideration; and with pleaſure we recommend his work to our readers, as every way deſerving their patronage and attention. C.

Poemata Latine, partim ſcripta, partim reddita: quibus accedunt quædam in Q. Horatium Flaccum obſervationes criticæ. A Gilb. Wakefield. 3 s. 6 d. *White.* —— Puerile and juvenile performances. M.

Nummus ſplendidus. 1 s. *Crowder.* —— A tranſlation into Latin hexameter of the poem, intitled, The Splendid Shilling; executed with dexterity, and accompanied with the Engliſh on the oppoſite page. C.

Horatio and Amanda, a poem. 1 s. *Robſon.* —— Celebrates the perſonal accompliſhments and cataſtrophe of two unfortunate lovers, and is written in agreeable verſification. C.

The firſt of April; or, The triumphs of folly. Dedicated to a celebrated Ducheſs. 2 s. 6 d. *Bew.* —— This manly poet perſeveres in running his bold career of perſonal ſatire. M.

An epiſtle from Shakeſpeare to his countrymen. 1 s. *Richardſon and Urquhart.* —— By no means devoid of elegance. C.

EDINBURGH.

A general hiſtory of Stirlingſhire; or, An account of the ancient monuments, and moſt important and curious tranſactions, in that ſhire, from the Roman invaſion of Scotland to the preſent time; with the natural hiſtory of the ſhire. Illuſtrated with an accurate map of the ſhire, from an actual ſurvey, and engravings of all the Roman and Scots antiquities. By William Nimmo, Miniſter of Bothkennar. 6 s. boards. *Creech.*

The hiſtory of Glaſgow, from the earlieſt accounts

accounts to the preſent time. With an account of the riſe, progreſs, and preſent ſtate of the different branches of commerce and manufactures now carried on in that city. With a plan of the city. By John Gibſon, merchant in Glaſgow. 5 s. 3 d. boards. *Glaſgow.*

An impartial view of the origin and progreſs of the preſent diſputes in the Eaſt India company, relative to Mahomed Ally-Khan, Nabob of Arcot, and Tulja gee, Raja of Tanjore. To which are annexed, Obſervations on Mahomed Ally-Khan's Letter to the Court of Directors. 2 s. *Balfour.*

The nature of Chriſtian liberty explained, the violations of it marked, and the weapons by which it ought to be defended pointed out, in a ſermon, [from Gal. v. 1.], delivered before the Rev. Synod of Relief, in the Relief church, Edinburgh, May 28 1776. By Michael Boſton, Paſtor of the Relief church, Falkirk. 6 d. *Anderſon, Stirling.*

The connection betwixt natural and revealed religion. A ſermon, [from John xv. 23.], preached before the Society in Scotland for propagating Chriſtian knowledge, June 7. 1770. By Sir Harry Moncreiff-Wellwood, Bt, one of the miniſters of St Cuthbert's. 1 s. *Creech.*

Letters on the ſtudy and uſe of Hiſtory. By Henry St John, Ld Viſc. Bolingbroke. A new edition. 3 s. ſewed. *Elliot.*

The works of Sir David Lindſay of the Mount. 1 s. 2 d. *Elliot.*

THE OBSECRATION.

[From GESSNER.]

YE Naiads, O attend my prayer!
Permit your waters as they glide
Gently to lave my wounded ſide;
Ye Naiads, O propitious hear!
Your kindly-healing powers beſtow?
No hate or violent deſign
(For barbarous rage was never mine)
Hath caus'd theſe purple drops to flow.

A blooming boy I lately found,
A wolf had mark'd him for his prey,
Beneath his ſavage graſp he lay,
And with his cries the woods reſound.

'Thank Heav'n! I heard — my ſhouts replied,
Like lightning to his aid I flew;
But while the monſter I ſubdue,
With furious teeth he tore my ſide.

Ye Naiads, O without offence
Permit this eve my trickling blood
To ſtain your pure tranſlucent flood!
'Twas ſhed in aid of innocence.

So, when the clouds of morning glow,
To the green margin of your ſpring,
A devoted kid will bring,
Whoſe colour mocks the new-fall'n ſnow.

W. NORTHAM.

ODE on a Cat ſtung by a Waſp.

DRawn by the ſun's refulgent rays
Reflected by the window's blaze,
At eaſe Grimalkin lay,
No griping cares to vex his breaſt,
Nor mouſe at hand to make a feaſt,
He ſlept the hours away.

Unnerv'd each limb, his potent claws
Were ſheath'd within their velvet paws,
And ev'ry fear aſide.
Long might he've ſlept in peaceful mood,
Nor dream'd of waſps' miſchievous brood;
But cruel fate deny'd.

One of the tribe, by chance convey'd,
Along the poliſh'd cryſtal ſtray'd,
With unavailing wing.
In vain ſhe climbs the ſmooth deceit,
The ſlippery ſurface ſhuns her feet,
And mocks the pointed ſting.

Her ſhining coat of golden hue,
Bedeck'd with azure, jet and blue,
The peerleſs maid diſplay.
Wak'd by the noiſe, Grimalkin eyes
Aſkance th' intruder as ſhe flies,
And meditates his prey.

The tabby warrior, old in wars,
Inur'd to ſlaughter, blood, and ſcars,
Now grips the glittering prize:
But ah! the fated ſpear aſſails
His whiſker'd jaws, nor teeth, nor nails
Avert the ſacrifice.

Ye heedleſs youths! attend the Muſe,
(Her ſoft inſtructions ne'er refuſe)
And moralize my lay.
Tho' beauty's pow'rful ſmiles invite,
'Tis innate virtue gives delight,
With charms that ne'er decay.

VERSES upon the Counteſs of DORSET, *expreſſing a high opinion of the Earl's conſtancy.*

By the celebrated CHARLES *Earl of* DORSET, *her huſband.*

Never before print'd.

NOT, CHLOE! that I juſter am,
Or truer than the reſt;
For I ſhould change each hour, like them,
Were it my intereſt.

But I am ty'd to very thee,
By ev'ry thought I have,
And, ſhould you now my heart ſet free,
I'd be again your ſlave.

All that in woman is ador'd,
In thy dear ſelf I find;
For the whole ſex can but afford
The good, the fair, and kind.

Why then ſhould I ſeek farther ſtore,
And ſtill make love anew?
When time itſelf can yield no more,
'Tis eaſy to be true.

Week. Mag.

To Dr BLAIR, *on his Sermons.* [197.]

WHen o'er her favour'd ſons young Fancy ſtreams
The kindling ray, which warms the Poet's thought;
When riſing Truth diſplays her genial beams,
To clear the dubious path by Hiſtory fought;
That ray from Virtue gains its native glow;
She points thoſe beams that guide the ſearch of truth:
Around the fane of Genius ſhe muſt throw
Her radiance, friendly to the ſteps of youth.
Nor ſhe, the Muſe who gently ſoothes the ſoul,
Soft arbitreſs of paſſion and the heart,
Nor ſhe could once th' impaſſion'd breaſt controul,
Could bend th' obdurate, by the power of art.
Wou'd ſhe allure us to the bliſsful ſhade,
And ſmooth the boſom by the ſweets of peace;
Or rouſe the mind, while circling ſtorms invade,
To brave ſtern danger, though each toil increaſe?
From Virtue only flows the peaceful ſtrain;
She fires the cheek, and ſparkles in the eye:
The Muſe were ſoothing, eloquent, in vain,
Did not meek Virtue every charm ſupply.
Would ſhe aſſume the harder taſk, to melt
The heart of Vice, to draw the ſwelling tear?
In her full breaſt is Virtue's preſence felt;
Her moving accents win the ſtubborn ear.
So, when dread thunder, rolling awful, rends
The knotted trunk, and threatens ruin round;
Soon the deſir'd, reviving ſhower deſcends;
Soon the field brightens, and its blooms abound.
Thrice happy thou! whom guardian Virtue holds,
Her hand defends, her pureſt ardour fires;
To whoſe purg'd eye Heaven's opening day unfolds
The glowing joys eternity inſpires.
Thus warm'd, to thee what are the foreign aid
And ſpecious grace which tinſel Art ſurround?
No ſtrength, no glare of Art may e'er pervade
The ſacred ſcenes which bloom on Claſſic ground.
Yet not to earth alone art thou confin'd;
But oft, ſublime, thou ſoar'ſt on ſeraph-wing;
That ſeraph-hand which paints man's troubled mind,
Unveils the ſkirts of heaven's Almighty King.
The Muſe conducts no common road to fame
The man on virtue and on goodneſs ſtay'd;
Whoſe wiſh for worth is but a ſecond aim;
Whoſe life, whoſe actions, eloquent, perſuade.

X.

The ROYAL PENITENT.

Being a paraphraſe of the 51*ſt Pſalm.*

By the Rev. Dr DODD.

MErcy, O mercy! Lord! with humble heart,
For thy known pity's ſake, mercy, I pray!
Boundleſs in tender mercies as thou art,
Take, Lord! O take my foul offence away!
Oh! from my loathſome guilt, waſh, cleanſe my ſoul!
Remove, dear Father! each defiling ſtain!
Guilty, O guilty!—Lord! I own the whole;
I ſee—I feel it: all excuſe is vain.
Againſt thee, Lord! ev'n thee, have I tranſgreſs'd;
Lo! ſelf-convicted, I before thee fall!
Juſt are thy words: their truth is thus confeſs'd,
Juſt are thy judgements: ſinners are we all!
Prone to offend or e'er to birth I came,
My mother, when conceiving, gave me guilt:
Shapen in ſin was my corrupted frame,
When in the womb that wond'rous frame was built.
But thou, of purer eyes than guilt to view,
Thou wilt accept the ſoul's ſincere deſire:
Pardon the paſt, the humbled heart renew,
And wiſdom by thy ſecret One inſpire!
Then liſten to my cry, and, O my God!
Purge me with hyſſop, and I pure ſhall grow;
Waſh me, foul leper! in the myſtic blood,
And whiter I ſhall be than whiteſt ſnow.
Again, the voice of gladneſs make me hear,
The voice of pard'ning love, for it is ſweet:
The ſoul dejected ſo ſhalt thou uprear,
The worm, which cruſh'd, lies trembling at thy feet.
Hide from my ſins, the object of thy hate,
Oh! hide thy face, and blot them from thy view!
A clean heart, God of grace! in me create,
And a right ſpirit in my ſoul renew!
From thy lov'd preſence let me not be driv'n,
Let me not loſe thy bleſſed Spirit's aid!
Again, the joy of thy ſalvation giv'n,
Uphold, ſupport, ſuſtain my ſoul diſmay'd;
Then of thy pard'ning mercy ſatisfy'd,
Thy pard'ning mercy loud will I proclaim:
So ſhall tranſgreſſors, taught by me, confide
In thy compaſſion,—turn, and bleſs thy name.
Ah! my ſoul ſhudders,—from the guilt of blood,—
Oh! from blood-guiltineſs deliver me!
O God! deliver,—my ſalvation's God!
And praiſe, unceaſing, will I pay to thee.

Permit my lips, now clos'd by guilt and ſhame,
Thy pard'ning love, JEHOVAH! to expreſs:
Then to the liſt'ning world I'll tell thy name,
Proclaim thy praiſe, and ſing thy righteouſneſs.

For crimes like mine no off'rings can atone,
The gift of outward ſacrifice is vain;
Could theſe avail, before thy righteous throne
Whole hecatombs I gladly would have ſlain.

The contrite ſpirit, and the ſighs ſincere,
Which from the broken, bleeding heart ariſe,
To thee more pleaſing ſacrifices are,—
Are gifts, my God! which thou wilt not deſpiſe.

Hear, then, and ſave! and to my people, Lord!
Thy ſaving mercy graciouſly extend!
Oh! let our Zion live in thy regard!
The walls of our Jeruſalem defend!

So ſhall the righteous to thy temple go,
And joyful bring their off'ring and their praiſe;
So ſhall the blood of lambs in plenty flow,
And incenſe from thy altar copious blaze!

Verſes from Miſs VANE *to Lord* LINCOLN.

Never before publiſhed.

Happy the virgin-ſtate! each nymph how bleſt!
Till cruel Love invade her tender breaſt!

ANON.

I Once was bleſt with all that Heav'n cou'd give,
To Pope and Murray read from morn to eve;
For them I ſcorn'd th' embroider'd eldeſt ſon;
Tho' many courted, I ne'er minded one:
Lik'd no Aminter but in Taſſo's ſtrain,
While Paſtor Fido was my conſtant ſwain:
Intent alone my joys in books to find,
And all my wiſhes,—an accompliſh'd mind.
My wiſh arriv'd, and juſt when happy made,
Lincoln ſteps in, and Love muſt be obey'd.
Lincoln (ſo Fate ordain'd) my bliſs ſupreme!
My mid day ſentiment, and midnight dream!
Good-humour, Beauty, Wit, and radiant Youth,
With the too ſpecious charms of ſeeming Truth,
Conſpir'd to make the hero all divine,
Conſpir'd to make me with the hero mine.
As ſwift as Maia's feather'd ſon he mov'd,
And ſigh'd, and danc'd, and talk'd, and laugh'd, and lov'd;
In notes more ſweet than Philomela ſings,
He ſaid a thouſand; look'd—ten thouſand things.
Gods! how he look'd! when to my raviſh'd ſight
My ſire firſt ſhew'd him,—as the north-ſtar bright.
Ah! were he fix'd like that! but, light as air,
He quits his vows, and ſeeks another fair;
Ev'n now, regardleſs of my ſenſe and charms,
He flies to Pelham's, happy Pelham's arms.
O aid me, Murray! call my wand'ring ſwain
Thy tuneful tongue ſhou'd never call in vain;
Thine eloquence and elocution move,
To plead the ſweeteſt cauſe—the cauſe of Love.
But ſee, he flies us both, nor Murray hears,
Nor heeds my wit, nor yet regards my tears!
Then farewel, Hope! my once lov'd books,
Avaunt Philoſophy! and Murray too! [adieu!
Lincoln! dear Lincoln weds this fatal night.
Pope! I deny, "Whatever is, is right!"

Oct. 5. 1744. [vi. 491.] *Week. Mag.*

A POETICAL ADDRESS.

[*London, March* 3. Mrs Barry made her firſt appearance laſt night at Covent-garden theatre, ſince the death of her huſband [54.], in the character of Lady Randolph, in Mr Home's tragedy of Douglas. Before the performance ſhe ſpoke the following poetical addreſs, ſaid to be written by Mr Garrick, deſcriptive of her domeſtic loſs, which exceedingly affected a crowded audience.]

With ev'ry hope a *veſſel* ſails away,
Soft ſwells the breeze, and cloudleſs breaks the day:
Till riſing winds the raging deep deform,
And the bark ſhatter'd ſinks beneath the ſtorm!
Such is my fate;—fair gales my canvas ſpread,
Till the charg'd tempeſt burſt upon my head;
Of the lov'd Pilot of my life bereft,
Save your protection, not a hope is left:
Without that peace your kindneſs can impart,
Nothing can calm this ſorrow-beaten heart.
When bounty on the feeling mind firſt flow'd,
Then ſprung the boſom's faireſt flower, and blow'd;
Angels with rapture the bleſt produce view'd,
For from *Benevolence* role *Gratitude!*
Urg'd by my duty, I have ventur'd here,—
But how for *Douglas* can I ſhed a tear?
When *real* griefs the burden'd boſom preſs,
Can it raiſe ſighs *feign'd* ſorrows to expreſs?
In vain will Art from Nature help implore,
When Nature for herſelf exhauſts her ſtore:
The tree cut down to which ſhe clung and grew,
Behold the propleſs woodbine bends to you;
Your ſoft'ring pow'r will ſpread protection round,
And though ſhe droops, may raiſe her from the ground.

On the Ladies WOOLLY *Head-Dreſs.*

HOW charmingly the WOOL our fair becomes!
From low to high, as Faſhion leads;
Our Lords the woolpacks place beneath their
Our ladies wear them on their heads. [bums,

A LOVE TRUISM.

With *Sylvia* bleſt, no wonder why,
The hours paſs rapidly away,
Love gives to Time his wings to fly,
Himſelf, with us, reſolv'd to ſtay.

HI-

HISTORICAL AFFAIRS.

TURKY. [161.]

"*Conſtantinople, Jan.* 24. The difference between the court of Peterſburg and the Porte, relative to the Crimea, is aggravated by the behaviour of both parties. The latter ſtrenuouſly oppoſes the pretenſions of Ruſſia; and, ſince the nomination of the new Grand Vizir, the Porte has come to the reſolution of conſiderably augmenting its navy, and employing a great number of ſhips on the Black ſea.

The two Ruſſian ſhips which arrived here have been obliged to make choice, either of ſelling their goods to our government, or of returning home with their whole cargoes, the Porte being unwilling to grant leave to ſuch ſhips to trade in the Black ſea. The parties intereſted objected at firſt to the ſale of their cargoes, but afterwards they thought proper to accept of it."

"*Warſaw, Feb.* 26. A courier arrived here on the 23d inſtant from Conſtantinople, with the important news, that the Ruſſians, finding that the Tartars of Crimea not only made great difficulties, but would not on their part accompliſh the articles agreed to in the laſt treaty of peace with the Porte, thought it neceſſary, in order to put an end to the affair, to make themſelves maſters of the whole peninſula of Crimea, which was happily executed under the wiſe directions of the Generals Broforouſky and Prince Gallitzin."

"*Conſtantinople, Jan.* 3. We are not a little uneaſy on account of the miſunderſtanding with the Regent of Perſia. Since the grand council of war held on the 2d of this month, in which it was reſolved to take meaſures immediately to ſtop its progreſs, the government hath engaged three French ſhips to carry ammunition to Alexandretta; and aſſigned 500 purſes to defray the firſt expences of the army which the Pacha of Trebiſonde, who is inveſted with the dignity of Seraſkier, is ordered to aſſemble. But while we are preparing here for war, the Perſians have already conquered ſome entire provinces. They are maſters of Baſſora, and Kerkut, a town ſituated on the banks of the Tigris, oppoſite Bagdad; have blockaded the latter; and having penetrated further into the country, they have laid ſiege to Aleppo, from whence we have advice, that if the city is not ſoon ſuccoured, it will ſhare the ſame fate as Baſſora."

"*Conſtantinople, Jan.* 17. During the aſſembly of the divan on the 4th of this month, two couriers arrived, with the agreeable news, that the army of Perſians which blocked up Bagdad is totally defeated; that the Perſians had raiſed the blockade, and had abandoned Kerkcut, and it was hoped they would evacuate Baſſora. The Porte immediately made this news public; which has alſo been confirmed by ſeveral private letters."

"*Conſtantinople, Feb.* 4. A fortnight ago the Porte received the head of Spanazzi Muſtapha Pacha, formerly Governor of Bagdat, the ſame perſon who had cauſed the head of his predeceſſor Omer Pacha to be cut off."

RUSSIA.

"*Peterſburg, Jan.* 14. On Thurſday laſt was celebrated a jubilee of the Imperial Academy of Sciences, it being the 50th anniverſary of its inſtitution. The Great Duke and Ducheſs honoured the aſſembly with their preſence. His Pruſſian Majeſty, and his Imperial Highneſs the Great Duke, were named members of the academy. On Sunday laſt, being new-year's day, there was a brilliant and numerous court in the morning, and a magnificent ball in the evening." *Lond. Gaz.*

"*Hamburg, Feb.* 7. Our letters from Peterſburg give an account of the revenues and expences of the Ruſſian empire; the former of which amount to the annual ſum of 17,130,618 roubles; and the latter, including penſions, preſents, &c. amount to 14,208,557 roubles. In the account of the revenues, the ſpecie current in the empire is not reckoned, on account of the great variation in it, and that part of it particularly regards the mines." [A rouble is in value 4 s. 6 d. Sterling.]

GERMANY. [45.]

"*Vienna, March* 13. Dr Meſmer, who has been long celebrated for the aſtoniſhing cures he has performed with the loadſtone, has lately reſtored ſight to a young lady who became blind at the age of three years by the ſmall pox, and was allowed a penſion by the Emperor, in conſideration of her misfortune, and extraordinary talents, which were particularly

cularly conſpicuous in the great knowledge ſhe had acquired in muſic, of which ſhe was perfect miſtreſs. She had been blind fourteen years, when the Doctor, by the application of a loadſtone according to his particular method, of which he makes no ſecret, entirely reſtored her the uſe of her eyes. This lady, who is naturally gay, was ſo affected at the firſt perception of light, that ſhe went out of one fit into another for ſome time. She thinks the human figure very odd, and laughs when ſhe ſees herſelf in a glaſs. She is much ſurpriſed at the forms of many things, which ſhe only was acquainted with by the touch, particularly that of her harpſichord, upon which ſhe cannot play but with her eyes covered. This young perſon is a very intereſting object, both for the phyſician and the philoſopher."

The Emperor ſet out from Vienna on the 1ſt of April, under the title of *Count Falkenſtine*, attended by the Counts Cobenzel and Joſeph Colloredo; arrived at Munich on the 3d; proceeded on his journey thence on the 6th; and arrived at Paris on the 18th. *Lond. gaz.*

United Provinces.

A Memorial, of which the following is a tranſlation, was preſented to the States-General by the Britiſh ambaſſador on the 21ſt of February.

"Since the commencement of the unnatural rebellion which has broke out in the Engliſh colonies againſt the legal conſtitution of the mother-country, the underſigned ambaſſador-extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the King of Great Britain, has had frequent occaſions to addreſs himſelf to your High Mightineſſes, in the name of his maſter, to engage you, by all motives of national intereſt, of good neighbourhood, of friendſhip, and finally of treaties, to put a ſtop to the clandeſtine commerce which is carried on between your ſubjects and the rebels. If the meaſures which your High Mightineſſes have thought proper to take, had been as efficacious as your aſſurances have been amicable, the underſigned would not now have been under the diſagreeable neceſſity of bringing to the cognitance of your High Mightineſſes, facts of the moſt ſerious nature.

The King hath hitherto borne, with unexampled patience, the irregular conduct of your ſubjects in their intereſted commerce in St Euſtatia, as alſo in America. His Majeſty has always flattered himſelf, that in giving time to your High Mightineſſes to examine to the bottom this conduct, ſo irregular, and ſo inſufferable, they would have taken meaſures neceſſary to repreſs the abuſe, to reſtrain your ſubjects within bounds, and to make them reſpect the rights and friendſhip of G. Britain.

The complaints which I have orders to make to your High Mightineſſes, are founded upon authentic documents, annexed to this memorial, where your High Mightineſſes will ſee with aſtoniſhment, and I doubt not at the ſame time with diſpleaſure, that your new Governor, M. Van Graaf, after having committed an illicit commerce at St Euſtatia, hath paſſed his forgetfulneſs of his duty to the point of conniving at the Americans in their hoſtile equipments, and the permitting the ſeizure of an Engliſh veſſel, by an American pirate, within cannon-ſhot of that iſland; and, in aggravation to the affront given to the Engliſh nation, and to all the powers of Europe, to return from the fortreſs of his government the ſalute of a rebel-flag. In return to the amicable repreſentations made by the preſident of the neighbouring iſland of St Chriſtopher, on theſe facts of notoriety, M. Van Graaf has anſwered in a manner the moſt vague and unſatisfactory, refuſing to enter at all into the ſubject, or into an explanation of the matter with a member of his Majeſty's council of St Chriſtopher's, diſpatched by the preſident for that purpoſe to St Euſtatia.

After exhibiting the documents annexed, nothing remains with me but to add, that the King, who had read them, not with leſs ſurpriſe than indignation, hath ordered me to expreſsly demand of your High Mightineſſes, a formal diſavowal of the ſalute by Fort Orange, at St Euſtatia, to the rebel-ſhip; the diſmiſſion, and immediate recall, of Governor Van Graaf; and to declare further, on the part of his Majeſty, that until that ſatisfaction is given, they are not to expect that his Majeſty will ſuffer himſelf to be amuſed by mere aſſurances, or that he will delay one inſtant to take ſuch meaſures as he ſhall think due to the intereſts and dignity of his crown.

Jos. Yorke.

Given at the Hague, Feb. 21. 1777."

A

A Memorial, delivered, under the order of the States-General, to the King of Great Britain by the envoy-extraordinary and plenipotentiary from their High Mightineſſes *.

"SIRE,

It is with the moſt profound reſpect, that the underſigned envoy-extraordinary and plenipotentiary of their High Mightineſſes, in conſequence of the orders he hath received, hath the honour to repreſent to your Majeſty, That the memorial which your ambaſſador hath preſented to their High Mightineſſes on the 21ſt of laſt month, hath touched them very ſenſibly; and that they find themſelves obliged to make complaint of the reproaches which are contained in it, as if their High Mightineſſes were to be ſuſpected of a will and intention of amuſing your Majeſty by amicable aſſurances, which they have falſified by their acts; alſo of the menacing tone which reigns in that memorial, and appears to their High Mightineſſes too highly ſtrained, beyond that which is the accorded and accuſtomed manner, and that ought to take place between two ſovereign and independent powers, and eſpecially between two neighbouring powers, which have been, of ſo many years continuance, united by the ties of good harmony and mutual friendſhip.

Their High Mightineſſes truſt, that on all occaſions, and particularly in reſpect to the unfortunate troubles of your Majeſty's colonies in America, they have held a conduct towards your Majeſty, which has been expected from a good neighbour, and a friendly affectionate power.

Their High Mightineſſes, Sire, hold your Majeſty's friendſhip in the higheſt eſtimation, and wiſh to do every thing in their power (as far as the honour and dignity of their ſtate will permit them to go) to cultivate it ſtill more and more; but they cannot, at the ſame time, ſo far reſtrain themſelves, as to diſguiſe the very poignant ſenſation with which that memorial hath impreſſed them.

It is alone from the motive of demonſtrating to your Majeſty every poſſible regard, and to prove, that their High Mightineſſes will not neglect any thing which may ſerve to inveſtigate properly the truth of the facts, from whence the complaints made to them ſeem to have ariſen, that they have reſolved to inſtitute an inquiry in a manner the moſt ſummary, and cut off all trainings of delay.

To this end their High Mightineſſes, paſſing by the ordinary and uſual form in like caſes, requiring a report in writing from their officers and others employed in their colonies, have already diſpatched their orders to the commandant of St Euſtatia, to render himſelf within the republic without delay, and as ſoon as poſſible, to give the neceſſary information of all that has paſſed within the iſland of St Euſtatia, and that which hath come to his knowledge relative to the American colonies and their veſſels, during the period of his command, and to lay his conduct, touching that matter, before the eyes of their High Mightineſſes.

The under-ſigned is charged by his orders to bring the information of this reſolution to your Majeſty; as alſo that their High Mightineſſes make no difficulty of diſavowing, in the moſt expreſs manner, every act or mark of honour which may have been given by their officers, or by any of their ſervants, to the veſſels of your Majeſty's colonies of North America, or that they may give hereafter, ſo far as thoſe acts or marks of honour may be of ſuch a nature, as that any can conclude from them that it is intended thereby, in the leaſt degree, to recogniſe the independence of thoſe colonies.

The under-ſigned is alſo further charged to inform your Majeſty, that their High Mightineſſes have, in conſequence, given their orders to their governors and councils in the Weſt Indies, and have enjoined them afreſh, in the ſtrongeſt terms, to obſerve exactly the placards and orders againſt the exportation of military ſtores to the American colonies of your Majeſty, and to ſee them executed moſt rigorouſly. WELDEREN.

Dated, London, March 26. 1777."

A gentleman, in a letter to Lord George Germaine, about the beginning of April, relative to ſome captures at ſea, ſays, "I obſerve by the public pa-

pers,

* Diſdaining the ſpirit and manner of the complaint, the States paſſed by the Ambaſſador (Sir Joſeph Yorke), and alſo the Secretary of State (Lord Suſſolk), and commanded their miniſter at London to addreſs himſelf directly to the King, and to deliver their anſwer into his own hands.

pers, that Sir Joſeph Yorke had inſtructions to remonſtrate ſtrongly to the States-General on the conduct of their governor of St Euſtatia, in not only admitting American privateers into the road, but even ſuffering them to make captures almoſt under the guns of the fort. To the latter complaint I happened to be an eye-witneſs of the only circumſtance that is brought to ſupport the charge, namely, the taking a brig belonging to Dominica by an American privateer, called the Baltimore Hero: but I can with truth aſſure your Lordſhip, that ſo far from the veſſel being taken near Fort Orange, that ſhe was taken going round St Kitt's, within a league of Sandy Point; and I am poſitive the Dutch governor could no more prevent the capture, than if ſhe had been taken off the Weſtern Iſlands. In reſpect to their being admitted into the road, it is what the Governors of Martinico, Guadalupe, St Lucia, and St Domingo, unanimouſly do. The Danes at St Croix go ſtill farther; they even furniſh falſe clearances to the American merchant-veſſels, to ſcreen them from the men of war. I myſelf ſaw two veſſels loaded with rice, &c. bound to St Euſtatia, taken by the Hind, releaſed through means of theſe clearances."

FRANCE. [46.]

"*Paris, April* 4. One of the richeſt of our young nobility, the Marquis de la Fayette, a relation of the Duke de Noailles, and between nineteen and twenty years of age, has, at his own expence, hired a frigate, and provided every thing neceſſary for a voyage to America, with two officers of his acquaintance. He ſet out laſt week, having told his lady and family that he was going to Italy. He is to ſerve as a major-general in the American army.—On the other hand, the Count de Bulkely, an Iriſh gentleman, who is a major-general in the French ſervice, is going, with the leave of his Majeſty, to offer himſelf to the King of G. Britain to ſerve againſt the Americans."—The Count de Bulkely was introduced to the King at St James's on the 16th of April.

About the 19th of April appeared in the London papers a copy of a memorial, without a date, ſaid to have been preſented to the miniſters of France by the Britiſh ambaſſador, viz.

"Independent of what ſovereign ſtates owe to themſelves, according to the ſacred laws of nature, and of nations, in caſes where any of their provinces may rebel; and, not to mention, that ſhould the efforts of the Engliſh-American colonies prove ſucceſsful, the provinces appertaining to other ſtates might be induced to make a ſimilar attempt; the ſubſcribing party is inſtructed to repreſent to the enlightened miniſters of France, that our colonies have nearly formed themſelves into an independent and formidable empire. Should they not be timely prevented, it will by no means be difficult (conſidering their powerful reſources of every kind) for them to attempt the conqueſt of other provinces in America, richer, and better ſituated. France and Spain have, therefore, every thing to apprehend for the ſafety of their colonies, ſhould thoſe of G. Britain ſucceed in their deſigns.

The ſubſcribing party hopes, that theſe reflections may induce his Moſt Chriſtian Majeſty, not only to continue his pacific intentions at this particular juncture, but alſo, that he may ſo far extend his neutrality and friendſhip, as to prohibit the merchants in his dominions from affording thoſe of America (with whom they now trade openly) ſuch vaſt ſuccours as have hitherto been furniſhed. Above all it is hoped, that Meſſ. Deane and Franklin may be reſtrained in thoſe meaſures, which have been gradually unfolded, ſo as to become leſs and leſs equivocal. The papers annexed to this memorial, will ſo amply diſplay the nature, and the progreſs, of Mr Deane's negotiations, that, after peruſal, it might reaſonably be expected that he ſhould be delivered up.

STORMONT."

SPAIN.

"*Madrid, March* 19. It is confirmed, that the Engliſh have long carried on, in the kingdom of Mexico, an illicit trade, extremely detrimental to Spain; and from the accounts received from thence it is computed, that this trade has inſenſibly drained the Spaniards of the greateſt part of their beſt revenues in that part of America. We learn from thence, that the Viceroy of Mexico, having been informed, that ſeven Engliſh veſſels had entered the river Tampico, immediately ſent a party of dragoons againſt them; the commander of which ſurpriſed and took the ſeven contraband veſſels

veſſels above mentioned, ſeized their papers and all their effects, together with 79,000 piaſtres in ſpecie. As a proof that this illicit trade cannot but be very prejudicial to Spain, it is known, that within five years paſt 365 Engliſh ſhips have entered the river Tampico, which have carried off, one year with another, 8,000,000 piaſtres; in conſequence of which the court has taken meaſures to cut them off for the future from this ſource of riches."

PORTUGAL.

"*Liſbon, Feb.* 24. Our late King is no more [166.]. The crown has deſcended to his daughter, the Princeſs of Brazil, who is now our Queen, and governs with the aſſiſtance of her huſband and uncle, Don Pedro, who is called King-Conſort. Their ſon, the Prince of Beira, is married to his aunt, the Queen's youngeſt ſiſter, and he is now heir-apparent to the crown."

Letters from Liſbon mention, that the late King of Portugal has left the Count de Lippe, who commanded his forces againſt the Spaniards in the courſe of laſt war, an elegant ſword, richly ſtudded with diamonds and precious ſtones; and bequeathed handſome preſents to Gen. Fraſer, Gen. Maclean, and ſeveral other Engliſh officers.

"*Liſbon, March* 11. Father M. Provincial of the Dominicans, was taken up a few days ago, for miſapplying great part of the revenues belonging to his order; and the Provincial of the Franciſcans has been depoſed on a ſimilar accuſation, though brother to a biſhop. The Abbeſs of Joanna is alſo depoſed, and the ſiſter of Count de Val de Reis is appointed to ſucceed her."

A merchant at Liſbon writes thus to his correſpondent at London.

"The Marquis of Pombal is diveſted of all his power; and though this has the ſpecious appearance of a voluntary reſignation, he is certainly in diſgrace. All his creatures are degraded, and moſt of them confined. This particularly is the caſe with the Dominican friar, to whoſe counſels the oppreſſions exerciſed at Oporto by the Portugueſe wine-company over the Engliſh, as well as natives, are chiefly attributed. The young prince was, immediately after the death of the King, taken from under the tuition of the Biſhop of Beja.

It is hardly poſſible to conceive the joy that runs through the kingdom from this change in the adminiſtration. For more than twenty years have the people of this country been grievouſly oppreſſed and afflicted without their complaints ever reaching the ears of their Sovereign; for more than twenty years has a wicked miniſter ruled them with a rod of iron. What numbers of all ranks has he ſhut up in dungeons, without their having been guilty of any other crime than that of ſtanding in his way! Figure to yourſelf them feeding on ſcanty portions of rotten ſardinia (a fiſh reſembling our ſprats) and brea (an inferior kind of bread), without ever being indulged with phyſician or confeſſor, without any ſocial intercourſe, without even ſeeing the chearful face of man.

Among theſe is the famous Biſhop of Coimbra, who was taken up ſome years ago for having diſapproved of the miniſter's ſeverity towards the Jeſuits. The aged prelate, as did all the others, appeared with hardly a rag to cover his nakedneſs; and during his impriſonment he had nothing to reſt on but the hard boards. We are likewiſe preſented with a ſtriking ſpectacle in the perſon of a ſon of the Marquis of Tavora. He was taken into cuſtody, and ſeized, with the reſt of the family [xxi. 21. 39.], when he was about four or five years of age; and having been in a ſtate of confinement ever ſince, without ſeeing a human creature but his keeper, he abſolutely knows no language, has almoſt no ideas, and in every reſpect is in a pure ſtate of nature. He remembers nothing of his parents, or of his former ſituation in life.

Some thouſands has the miniſter, from firſt to laſt, put into theſe diſmal dungeons; of whom upwards of 600 now appear to tell their doleful tale.

With the removal of this dreadful ſcene we are additionally happy in the future proſpect of a mild and humane government. The characters of the preſent Royal Family are quite amiable; and they are determined, it is ſaid, to hear all complaints, and to ſee them redreſſed.

With all our grievances and diſtreſſes, real or fictitious, let an Engliſhman compare the political ſituation of his country with that of Portugal, and be unhappy if he can."

ENGLAND. [166.]

At a general quarterly court held at the East-India houſe, March 26. ſeveral letters concerning the tranſactions at Madraſs [175.] were read to the proprietors.——Col. Dalrymple, in a letter, dated at Cairo, Jan. 17. 1777, and received by the directors March 18. gave an account of his landing at Suez, in the Swallow ſloop of war; but that he had been ſtopped at Cairo, on his journey to England. In this letter the Colonel recapitulated the whole tranſactions at Madraſs, almoſt from the arrival of Lord Pigot in India; ſhewed how the Nabob of Arcot had underhandedly endeavoured to prevent the reinſtatement of the Raja of Tanjore, by means of one Commino, whom he had ſent to the Raja, to perſuade him that the Eaſt-India company only meant to make a tool of him; and that when Lord Pigot came to put him in poſſeſſion, not to accept of it, as he would only be conſidered as a ſervant to the company. This afterwards appeared againſt Commino at Madraſs; who, by order of Lord Pigot, was ſhackled on the public parade. The ſeveral differences in the council he alſo [illegible], with Lord Pigot's putting of Sir [illegible] Fletcher under an arreſt; diſpoſſeſſing two of the members of the council of their ſeat; and finally the ſeizure of the perſon of his Lordſhip, and his confinement at the Mount, under Major Horne of the artillery; that he had great fears for the life of Lord Pigot, as the ſecond ſon of the Nabob, from his turbulent and ambitious temper, was capable of doing any thing to encompaſs his ends; that expreſſes were diſpatched from Madraſs, by the Grenville Indiaman, one from the new Governor, and another from the Nabob; which laſt was no other than the company's commiſſary-general, though on his paſſage to England as the Nabob's meſſenger; that the Nabob entered into Madraſs, in great pomp, the day after Lord Pigot's ſeizure; and that the credit and power of the preſent Governor (Mr Stratton) was ſupported by the Nabob's gold.

After the ſecretary had read Col. Dalrymple's letter, and other two letters, one from Mr George Smith, a free merchant at Fort St George, and one from the mayor of Madraſs, in which was incloſed a copy of Lord Pigot's petition to the mayor's court for a *Habeas corpus*, Mr Roberts, the chairman, acquainted the proprietors, that the directors not having received the laſt accounts until within theſe three days, had not come to any reſolution reſpecting the buſineſs, it being of ſuch importance as to require the cooleſt deliberation. Mr Gregory, Gov. Johnſtone, Admiral Pigot (his Lordſhip's brother), Mr Elliott, Mr Moore, Mr Jones, and ſeveral others, oppoſed the idea of procraſtination, and urged the imminent danger to which his Lordſhip's life was at preſent expoſed. They decried the conduct of the refractory members of the council, and reminded the directors of their own dignity, and the inſult offered them by their conduct, in having preſumed to ſeize the perſon, and to ſuperſede the appointment of a noble and avowed officer; and moved that the directors would adopt the moſt ſpeedy method of reſtoring his Lordſhip to his liberty, of ſuſpending the uſurped preſidency of Mr Stratton, and of reſtoring the government to its ancient legal conſtitution; reſerving at the ſame time the power of ſtrict inquiry into the conduct of each party, and of inflicting ſuch puniſhment as the nature of the offence demanded. Gov. Johnſtone ſaid, that the preſent Nabob of Arcot was the ſole cauſe of all the miſchief; that he was ſubtle, dexterous, and deceitful, and as capable of miſchief as any man he had ever heard of; that, notwithſtanding, he was extremely courteous, and well accomplithed, and that few perſons left his preſence diſſatisfied. As this was obviouſly levelled againſt particular perſons who had experienced his favours, it cauſed a general laugh; and Mr Macleane, who acts here as the Nabob's agent, was obliged to juſtify his commiſſion. He complained of the inhumanity ſhewn to his Highneſs upon ſeveral occaſions, of the breach of treaties which ſo frequently had taken place, and of the cruelties exerciſed upon his ſubjects. He compared him to a man between two mill-ſtones, ready to be cruſhed to death, who only wanted to be removed from the dangerous jeopardy in which misfortune had placed him. He concluded with obſerving, that the idea of aſſaſſination from the Nabob, or any of his family, was abſurd to any man who knew the particular nature and mildneſs of his government, which differed in every reſpect from that ſanguinary form ſo univerſal on the Eaſtern conti-

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nent; that whatever might then appear reſpecting the ſuppoſed injury received by Lord Pigot, he well knew that the majority of the council would furniſh the directors in due time with ſufficient juſtification of the part they had taken, and hoped that the court would not come to any precipitate determination reſpecting their conduct.

A ſuggeſtion was then thrown out by the chairman and others, to ſet Lord Pigot immediately at liberty, and afterwards decide on the merits of the tranſaction. But this was warmly oppoſed by all Lord Pigot's friends, particularly his brother, who very feelingly and ſenſibly obſerved, "that if they gave him his liberty only, without reſtoring him to his government, it would not only be indirectly approving what had been done, but reduce his aſſaſſination to a certainty, as the Nabob and his friends would have it more in their power to take him off thus unprotected: — "No, (ſays the Admiral), reſtore Lord Pigot to his government, and he will be able to protect himſelf from his enemies. I know him to be a man of honour; he will not abuſe ſuch confidence; and if, upon a review of this tranſaction, he ſhould be found culpable, then do what you ſhall think right."

After a long debate it was agreed, that a general court ſhould be held on the Monday following, March 31. for determining, by ballot, the following queſtion: "That it be recommended to the Court of Directors to take ſuch meaſures as ſhall appear to them moſt effectual for reſtoring Lord Pigot to the full exerciſe of the powers veſted in him by the commiſſion from the Company, as Governor and Preſident of the ſettlement of Madraſs; and for inquiring into the conduct of the principal actors in impriſoning his Lordſhip, and diſpoſſeſſing him of the exerciſe of the legal powers wherewith he was inveſted."

In the London gazette of March 29. and in other papers, appeared the following advertiſement.

"Eaſt-India Houſe, March 26. 1777. At a General Court of Directors of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the Eaſt Indies, held this day at their houſe in Leadenhall-ſtreet, the court of Directors laid before this Court the following reſolution paſſed by them this day:

"*Reſolved unanimouſly*, That the Gentlemen in the Direction, finding themſelves very injuriouſly treated in two pamphlets lately publiſhed, one intitled, *Letter from Mahommed Ali Chan, Nabob of Arcot, to the Court of Directors; to which is annexed a ſtate of facts relative to Tanjore, with an Appendix of Original Papers*; the other intitled, *Original Papers relative to Tanjore*; both printed for T. Cadell in the Strand, 1777: They therefore very earneſtly intreat this Court, and all the Proprietors, to ſuſpend their judgement on the conduct of their Directors, thus indecently attacked by an anonymous and inſidious publication, until they ſhall have fully and ſatisfactorily juſtified themſelves to their Conſtituents, and to the Public, for which they have already made conſiderable preparations; and are bold to aſſure this Court, from the materials before them, that they have not the leaſt doubt of refuting thoſe heavy charges, which, could they be proved, would not only render them unfit to conduct the affairs of this Company, but utterly unworthy of every degree of public truſt or confidence.

The Court of Directors feel the impropriety of noticing, and thereby giving conſequence to publications of this nature; but as they conceive the abuſe therein contained is unparallelled, the deſign and tendency extremely dangerous, and that the author has it in view to depretiate the Company in the eyes of government, and of the nation, and thereby to embarraſs their affairs, the Court of Directors hope their Conſtituents will not, in this inſtance, think the formal examination of an anonymous pamphlet an indignity offered to the Company."

And this Court, having duly conſidered of the ſaid reſolution,

"*Reſolved unanimouſly*, That this Court doth approve of the reſolution taken by the Court of Directors this day, and deſire that the ſame be printed in all the public news-papers."

To this advertiſement an anſwer was publiſhed in the next paper, dated, *Poland ſtreet, March* 29. viz.

"The advertiſement publiſhed in all the news-papers, by the Directors of the Eaſt-India Company, relative to two pamphlets, ſtating their injuſtice to the Nabob of Arcot, renders this public reply neceſſary.

THEY repreſent the publications complained of as "anonymous, inſidious, and

dangerous;" owning, at the ſame time, that "if the charges contained in them could be proved, they would not only render them (the Directors) unfit to conduct the affairs of the Company, but utterly unworthy of every degree of public truſt and confidence."

This public and haſty declaration leaves the queſtion between the Company and the Nabob of Arcot in a very delicate ſituation; but it cannot with juſtice be attributed to the Nabob, who ſought redreſs from the Court of Directors with moderation, with patience, with reſpect, nay, with humility; and who did not apply to the nation at large until he had loſt every hope of obtaining juſtice from the Court of Directors; from the Company.

The truth of this aſſertion will be made appear from the records of the Company.

The pamphlets can no longer be conſidered as anonymous; for I avow having furniſhed all the materials of which they are compoſed. I aſſert, and will prove their authenticity. And if I fail in this reſpect, I am ready to have my name conſigned to diſgrace and infamy. They never were inſidious; for their purpoſe is honeſt: and their publication was never diſavowed; on the contrary, it was known by thoſe who complain, that the ſecond and principal publication would appear, unleſs the doing juſtice to the Nabob prevented it. Dangerous they certainly are; but the danger remains for thoſe who dare to infringe the public faith, and oppreſs an ally of Great Britain; and not for thoſe, who, being injured, ſue for redreſs.

To whom ſhall the allies of Great Britain complain, if oppreſſed, but to the King, the Parliament, and the Nation? The Nabob, before he made this appeal, offered to leave the deciſion of his rights to the Company; depoſiting the revenues of the country of which he has been unjuſtly deprived, in the Company's treaſury, and agreeing that the adminiſtration ſhould be placed in the hands of three commiſſioners, one to be named by the Company, one by the Rajah of Tanjore, and one by himſelf, till the queſtion of right ſhould be decided. He requeſted, he ſupplicated, that the Court of Directors would conſider the orders which deprived him of his rights, contrary to the faith of treaties, the national intereſt, and the national honour; but his repeated intreaties, his ſupplications, were rejected. Could a ſtronger proof of his unalterable attachment be given? One only could, and that I am commanded to give. The Nabob of Arcot, truſting implicitly to the juſtice and honour of this nation, waves his independent and ſovereign rights, and ſubmits his cauſe to the deciſion of the laws of Great Britain.

L. MACLEANE,
Agent for the Nabob of Arcot."

Addreſſes to the proprietors from both parties appeared likewiſe in the papers, the one party requeſting a negative, the other an affirmative, to be given to the queſtion.—One, ſigned HUGH PIGOT, (Lord Pigot's brother), contains extracts, from Col. Dalrymple's letter, viz.

"Lord Pigot went with Col. Stuart, who had aſked his Lordſhip to convey him to the company's garden-houſe to ſupper in his chaiſe. When the chaiſe was got about half a mile from the fort, Col. Eddington, the adjutant-general, came running towards them; and when he approached the horſes heads, he waved his drawn ſword, and called out, "Sepoys!" when a party came from the other ſide, and Capt. Lyſaught came up to the chaiſe with a piſtol in his hand, and told Lord Pigot he was his priſoner: Col. Stuart, taking his Lordſhip by the arm, ſaid, "Get out:" Lord Pigot was conducted to Mr Benfield's poſt-chaiſe, which was ſtanding by the road-ſide; an orderly ſerjeant came out of it, and his Lordſhip was deſired to get in; Capt. Lyſaught followed him with the piſtol in his hand, and conveyed his Lordſhip to the Mount, where he delivered him as a priſoner into the cuſtody of Major Horne, who commanded the artillery cantoned there. Col. Stuart returned to the fort, and declared Mr Stratton to be the Governor. Immediately after aſſuming the government, Mr Stratton, &c. promiſed a reward in public orders to the ſoldiers, and ſent an order to Major Horne under their hands, that in caſe of any attempt being made to reſcue Lord Pigot, his Lordſhip's life muſt anſwer it: and a few days after, Col. Eddington was ſent to remove his Lordſhip at midnight from the Mount, he would not tell whither; it is now ſaid Chinglaput was the place, but there are good grounds to believe, that would not have been his Lordſhip's fate. However, Lord Pigot declared, he would not truſt himſelf with a traitor, and that he would not, whilſt he had life, be removed from thence, but

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to his own fort, or his Majeſty's ſhip. His determination, and the ſenſe the men ſeemed to have of his Lordſhip's ſituation, induced Major Horne to become ſecurity for that time. — It ſince appears by the affidavit of Mr Randall, who is gone to England in the Grenville, that the Nabob's ſecond ſon had, before this, been tampering for his Lordſhip's aſſaſſination. Great pains have been taken to invalidate Mr Randall's evidence, but there is ſcarce a man in the ſettlement who is not now of opinion, or who has not expreſſed ſuch ſentiment heretofore, that the ſecond ſon is capable of that or any villany, to promote his ambitious views: for my own part, I have not experience or knowledge enough of him to judge from my own obſervations."

The following letter was received at London, by the way of Suez, from India, on Thurſday night, March 27. and was forthwith publiſhed.

"*To the Hon.* GEORGE STRATTON, *Eſq; Preſident, &c. of the Council at Fort Saint George.*

GENTLEMEN,

1. WE have received your letter of the 23d of Auguſt, by the Shrewſbury; and we have alſo received a letter from the Rt Hon. Lord Pigot, dated the 29th of Auguſt, by the Triton.

2. Having maturely conſidered the ſubject of theſe letters, we proceed immediately to acquaint you with our determination upon them.

3. The rights and powers of the Governor and Council of Fort St George, being by the original conſtitution veſted in the majority of the members who compoſe that body, and the intemperate conduct of your late preſident, Lord Pigot, in forcibly excluding two of your members from their ſeats at the Board, having been the cauſe of the unhappy ſeparation of the majority of your Board from the minority; in this alarming and dangerous ſituation of your government, we think it incumbent on us to declare, that we acknowledge the title and authority which we underſtand you have been thus compelled to aſſume: in conſequence thereof, we have reſolved to ſupport you in the government by all the means you may require from us, and we have it in our power to grant, in virtue of our general inſtructions, to afford our aid and protection to all the preſidencies of the Company in India.

4. Although you have not yet notified to us, that you have aſſumed the adminiſtration of the Preſidency of Fort St George, nor informed us of all the circumſtances which produced that event; yet we are too well appriſed of the ſeries of tranſactions which led to it, to entertain a doubt, with reſpect to the conduct we ought to purſue on this occaſion; and the criſis is too urgent and alarming to admit of our waiting to enter into a more minute inveſtigation of all the facts and proceedings which have reduced the government of Fort St George to its preſent ſituation, and us to the neceſſity of deciding upon it. It is ſufficient for us to know, that in ſupporting that part of a divided adminiſtration, which is formed by a majority of its members, we ſupport the legal and conſtitutional government.

5. We judge it proper, however, to mention, that we ſhould have been very glad to offer our mediation to conciliate paſt differences, inſtead of purſuing the more deciſive line which we have adopted, had we conceived any hopes of ſucceſs; but we feared that your differences had gone too far to admit of it, and that a want of ſucceſs in promoting that deſireable end, might have been attended with conſequences more fatal than any which can reſult from our preſent decided reſolution.

6. After ſo recent an example of the diſpoſition of your late Preſident, as appeared in his conduct towards the Nabob, and while our deciſion on the appeal which was made to us by the Nabob on that occaſion, was yet depending, we could not but be greatly alarmed for the peace of the Carnatic, when we heard of the unexampled means by which Lord Pigot had endeavoured to uſurp the powers of government, by attempting to procure a majority in the council by violence, in order to ſanctify his meaſures. Thus deprived of the aid on which we had depended, from the integrity of a large majority of the members of your late council, who had ſtedfaſtly oppoſed the hoſtile meaſures adopted by his Lordſhip againſt the Nabob, what hope could we any longer entertain, that our orders on theſe points, which were contained in our letter the 7th of Auguſt, would not be either greatly diſobeyed, or covertly eluded, when the execution of them was thus left to the diſcretion of that power which they

were

were meant to controul? Notwithſtanding what has followed, we are not yet freed from our apprehenſions; we therefore judge it neceſſary to give you this notice, that our final reſolution on the charges preferred by the Nabob againſt your late Preſident, only remains ſuſpended; and that if any change ſhall have taken place ſince the date of your laſt advices, which ſhall make it neceſſary for us to recur to the opinions which we have already delivered upon them, we ſhall not fail to proceed to the laſt extremities, warranted by the controuling powers veſted in us by the late regulating act of parliament for the preſervation of the national faith, and of the company's engagements with their ally, the Nabob of the Carnatic.

7. Senſibly concerned as we are for the diſorders which have unhappily taken place in the government of Fort St George, we muſt ſtill continue to feel the moſt painful apprehenſions of the conſequences which may enſue from ſuch convulſions; we earneſtly deſire, therefore, that you will furniſh us with conſtant advices of every ſubſequent tranſaction which may have any relation to this unfortunate affair, and in which the general intereſts of the company may be eventually concerned, to enable us, at all times, to be prepared to contribute our aid by any means that may be neceſſary to conduce to the ſafety of your ſettlement.

8. To remove every poſſibility of a doubt, that the whole powers of your board reſt in a majority of its members, we tranſmit you an extract of a general letter which we have lately received from the Honourable Court of Directors by the Lioneſs, wherein you will find their ſentiments very clearly expreſſed.

9. We have thought it proper to acquaint Sir Edward Hughes with the reſolutions we have formed under the preſent circumſtances, with reſpect to your preſidency, and to requeſt that he will unite with us in the ſupport of your authority and government. We are, Gentlemen, Your moſt obedient humble ſervants,

WARREN HASTINGS.
Fort William, J. CLAVERING.
the 10th Sept. RICH. BARWELL.
1776. P. FRANCIS."

A ballot was taken, March 31. on the queſtion above inſerted; which was cloſed at ſix o'clock; and the numbers came out thus: For the queſtion, 382; Againſt it, 142.

After the clerk declared the numbers, a proprietor aroſe, and ſaid, he diſapproved of the legality of the proceedings, and was determined to enter his proteſt. Mr Macleane warmly eſpouſed the motion, and entered into a detail on the irregularity of Lord Pigot's conduct. He was ſpiritedly replied to by Governor Jonſtone, who ſaid, that he did not want to throw a veil over the conduct of Lord Pigot, which he hoped his Lordſhip would be able to defend; but that he muſt reprobate the proceedings of part of the council, aided by the military, in impriſoning his Lordſhip; that if he had committed an error, reference ſhould be made to the Directors, not for the council to take the power in their hands; and in reſpect of Lord Pigot's giving a caſting vote in council, it was what he imagined was practiſed in all aſſemblies, which was warranted by reaſon and cuſtom, nay, which was practiſed by Mr Haſtings, to whom Mr Macleane was a warm friend, though he (Mr Macleane) diſapproved of it in Lord Pigot. This altercation was kept up till eight o'clock; when Mr Potts roſe, and ſaid, that he apprehended ſuch arguments were foreign to the buſineſs of the day; that the proprietors in his opinion ſupported their conſequence on the determination of the day's ballot, elſe every petty Aſiatic power, aided by our military, would annihilate the authority and commerce of our Eaſt-India company. The queſtion of adjournment was then put, and carried unanimouſly.

"*London, April* 22. Col. Watſon, who ſet out for Portſmouth on Thurſday laſt, in order to embark for the Eaſt Indies, is charged with a commiſſion for the conſtruction of docks, canals, and other marine works, in Bengal."

"*Spithead, April* 18. His Majeſty's ſhip the St Alban's ſailed on the 16th inſtant from St Helen's, and this morning the Blonde and Porpoiſe, with their ſeveral convoys, for America, having on board the Anſpach troops, and Hanau chaſſeurs, and the Brunſwick and Hanau recruits." *Lond. gaz.*

"*Spithead, April* 19. Yeſterday and this morning arrived the Reſolution and Royal Britain tranſports, from Williamſtadt, with Heſſian and Hanau recruits, for their reſpective corps in America."

MAR-

MARRIAGES.

April 17. At Edinburgh, Archibald Borthwick, Esq; late of Norway, merchant, to Miss Margaret Nicolson Scott, daughter of Mr James Scott writer to the signet.

30. At Redhall, near Edinburgh, the Hon. Col. Muir Campbell of Lawers, to Miss Macleod, daughter of Mr Macleod of Raza.

BIRTH.

April 24. At Addiston, Lady Mary Hogg, of a daughter.

DEATHS.

In India, in an engagement between the Company's troops and the Marattoes, Lieut. John Erskine, eldest son of Dr John Erskine of Carnock, one of the ministers of Edinburgh.

At Surat, in India, Mr Thomas Cumin, surgeon there, son of the late Dr Cumin, one of the ministers of Edinburgh.

April 1. At his house in Banff, Capt. George Morison of Haddo.

3. At Sancere, in France, the Hon. Thomas Nairne, seventh son of John late Lord Nairne, by Lady Catharine Murray, daughter of Charles Earl of Dunmore.

3. At Edinburgh, Dr John Neilson, physician, son of the late William Neilson, Esq; merchant, and sometime Lord Provost of the city of Edinburgh.

3. In the county of Down, in Ireland, Joseph Woods, aged 112.

3. At Madrid, in Spain, Donna Maria Bustos, of Villasegnor, aged 110 years 2 months and 25 days.

At Birkenhead chapel, Lancashire, Martha Lary, aged 102, mother of nineteen children.

6. At Glasgow, Neil Buchanan of Auchintoshan, Esq; This gentleman saw his wife, a child, and two servants, interred not many days before his death.

6. At Glasgow, Mr William Anderson merchant in that city.

7. At London, Sir Stephen Theodore Janssen, Bt, late chamberlain of that city.

7. The Lady of Earl Temple. She complained to the servant that attended her, when going to bed, that she found a great dizziness in her head, and the loss of her eye-sight, after which she fell into a fit, and expired immediately.

8. At her house in Edinburgh, Dame —— Blackwood, widow of Sir John Trelawney of Trelawney, Bt, son to the late Bishop of Winchester.

8. At Forres, Mary Innes, daughter of Sir James Innes of Balvenie, Bt, and spouse to Mr Alexander Watt minister of Forres.

9. At Portsoy, Mr James Robertson junior, merchant at that place.

10. At Dundee, Mr John Myer, preacher of the gospel, of the Antiburgher Seceders.

11. At Tullose, Patrick Leslie Duguid, Esq; of Balquhain, in the 77th year of his age.

11. At his seat at Etal, Northumberland, Sir William Carr, Bt. The title descends to his brother Robert Carr, of London, Esq;

12. At Creiff, John Campbell, Esq; of Barcaldine.

14. At his seat at Kettlethorpe, Charles Amcots, Esq; LL. D. member of parliament for Boston.

15. At London, William Corrie, Esq; merchant in Dumfries.

15. Mrs Anne Grant, daughter of the deceased Col. John Grant of Carron, spouse to John Grant of Lurg.

16. At Drumdryan, Miss Janet Spens, daughter of Dr Nathaniel Spens, physician in Edinburgh.

17. At London, Mr Henry Woodward, of Covent-Garden theatre.

18. At Edinburgh, in the 19th year of her age, Miss Mary Morthland, daughter of Mr Morthland of Rindmuir, clerk to the signet.

19. In the parish of Fyvie, Grizel Strath, in the 102d year of her age.

20. At Glasgow, Mr William M'Cormack, merchant in that city.

At Aberdeen, Mr James Milne, merchant in that city.

22. At Bath, John Talbot Touchet, Baron Audley of Haleigh in England, and Earl of Castlehaven in Ireland. Dying without issue, the ancient barony of Audley devolves to his nephew, the eldest son of Philip Thickneese, Esq;

24. At Edinburgh, Mrs Isabella Bannerman, spouse to Mr John Hope merchant in that city.

25. At Deptford, aged 101, Mrs Singleton, a widow lady.

26. At Edinburgh, Mrs Anna Young, spouse to John Moncreiff of Sauchopwood, Esq; writer in Edinburgh.

27. At Cruden, in the 73d year of his age, and 47th of his ministry, Mr William Hay, minister of Cruden.

28. At Edinburgh, Mr Gilbert Innes merchant in that city.

[It is with pleasure we learn, that the report of the death of Prof. Ross of Aberdeen [55.], which we copied from a news-paper, is false.]

PREFERMENTS.

From the London Gazette.

The King has been pleased,

April 1. to grant unto James Adam and Thomas Sandby, Esqs, the office of Architect of his Majesty's Works.

— 5. to present the Rev. John Macnaught to the church and parish of Girthon, in the presbytery

Preſbytery of Kirkcudbright, vacant by the death of Robert Cooper, late miniſter thereof.

— 11. to confer the honour of the Moſt Honourable Order of the Bath on Maj.-Gen. Henry Clinton. His Excellency was inveſted by his Majeſty, April 11.

— 12. to recommend Robert Lord Biſhop of Oxford, to be elected Biſhop of London, in the room of Dr Richard Terrick, deceaſed.

— 15. to preſent the Rev. Hugh Munro to the church and pariſh of Uig, in the preſbytery of Lewis, and ſhire of Inverneſs, vacant by the death of the Rev. Norman Morriſon.

— 15. on account of the great age and infirmity of the Rev. John Beton, miniſter of Glenſhield, in the preſbytery of Garloch, and county of Roſs, to conſent that the Rev. John Mactae ſhould be ordained Aſſiſtant to the ſaid John Beton during his life, and be intitled, on the death of the ſaid John Beton, to the ſtipend, benefits, and profits, now belonging to the ſaid John Beton, in the ſame manner as if he had been appointed upon a vacancy of a miniſter of the ſaid pariſh.

— 26. to approve the appointment of Mr Nicholas Furſmann to be his Danith Majeſty's Conſul in the Britiſh Channel, and in the ports of the Briſtol channel.

War-office, April 15 1777.

[*For Subalterns ſee our cover.*]

3d reg. of foot-guards: Capt. Charles Leigh to be Captain of a Company, vice Arthur Owen.

Royals, 1ſt bat.: Lieut. Guſtavus Nicolls to be Captain, vice Rowland Mainwaring.

Royals, 2d bat.: Lieut. John Balfour to be Captain, vice James Stewart.

7th reg. of foot: Capt.-Lieut. Francis Le Maitre to be Captain, vice Alexander Hay; and Lieut. John Harriſon to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice Francis Le Maitre.

12th reg. of foot: Lieut. John Spilſbury to be Captain, vice Thomas Walcott.

21ſt reg. of foot: Andrew Brown (Clerk) to be Chaplain, vice James Gordon.

30th reg. of foot: Lieut. John Evatt to be Captain-Lieutenant, vice Richard Chichley Plowden; and Lieut. James Sharpe to be Captain, vice William Sowle.

Dr Robert Knox to be Inſpector of the Hoſpitals for the Forces under the command of Gen. Sir Guy Carleton.

Dr Michael Morris to be ditto, for ditto, under the command of Gen. Sir William Howe.

FIARS for crop 1776, per boll.

MID-LOTHIAN, or EDINBURGHSHIRE.

	Sterl.	s.	d.		Sterl.	s.	d.
Clean Wheat,	1	8	6	Oats,		10	0
Blacked ditto,		16	6	Munland Oats,		9	0
Beſt Barley,	1	2	0	Oat meal, 8 ſtone		11	0
Blanded Bear,		10	4	Peaſe,		12	0
Rough Bear,		9	4				

ABERDEENSHIRE.

	Scots, L.	s.	d.
Great Oats with fodder,	6	6	0
Ditto without fodder,	6	0	0
Brocked Oats with fodder,	4	16	0
Ditto without fodder,	4	10	0
Small Oats with fodder,	3	10	0
Ditto without fodder,	3	4	0
Bear with fodder,	6	12	0
Ware Bear with fodder,	6	6	0
Ditto without fodder,	6	0	0
Farm or Market Bear without fodder,	6	6	0
White Meal, nine ſtone,	6	4	0
Farm Meal, eight ſtone,	5	6	8
Market Malt,	6	4	0
Peaſe	6	0	0
Wheat,	9	11	0
Rye,	5	6	8

BANFFSHIRE.

	Scots, L.	s.
Boll of Wheat,	9	12
Beſt Bear with fodder,	7	10
Beſt Bear without fodder,	6	12
Beſt Oats with fodder,	6	6
Beſt Oats without fodder	5	8
Second Bear with fodder,	6	6
Second Bear without fodder,	5	8
Second Oats with fodder,	5	14
Second Oats without fodder,	4	16
Oat-meal,	5	8
Peaſe,	5	8

Prices of grain at Haddington, May 23.

	Beſt.	*Second.*	*Third.*
Wheat,	20s. 6d.	10s. 8d.	10s. 6d.
Bear,	12s. 9d.	19s. 0d	18s. 6d.
Oats,	10s. 9d.	10s. 0d.	9s. 4d.
Peaſe,	9s. 0d	8s. 6d.	8s. 0d.

Edinburgh, May 23. Oat-meal, 9 d. 2 f. Bear-meal, 6 d. Peaſe meal, 6 d.

The Edinburgh bill of burials for April 1777.

Within the city { Males 28, Fem. 40 } 68
In the Weſt-kirk-yard { Males 13, Fem. 16 } 29
} 97. Decr. 10.

AGE	N°	DISEASES.	N°
Under 2	34	Aged	10
Between 2 & 5	16	Aſthma	1
5 & 10	6	Bowelhive	4
10 & 20	4	Chincough	4
20 & 30	2	Conſumption	28
30 & 40	8	Fever	12
40 & 50	7	Killed by a fall	1
50 & 60	4	Meaſles	8
60 & 70	6	Small pox	12
70 & 80	7	Stillborn	7
80 & 90	2	Suddenly	3
90 & 100	1	Teething	7